	SAFETY	PREVENTION	ACCOUNTABILITY
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CDVSA	Domest	Council on ic Violence ual Assault	

Do the best you can until you know better.

Then when you know better, do better.

Maya Angelou

of Public Safety the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The purpose of the council is to provide for planning and coordination of services to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault or to their families and to perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to provide for crisis intervention and prevention programs. ALASKA STATUTE 18.66.010 | ESTABLISHED IN 1981

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Our Vision

Alaska, freed from domestic and sexual violence.

FY 2017 Board Members

Rachel Gernat, Chair, Public Member
Michelle Dewitt, Vice Chair, Public Member
Patricia Owen, Department of Education & Early Development
James Cantor, Department of Law
Walt Monegan, Department of Public Safety
Karen Forrest, Department of Health & Social Services
Dean Williams, Department of Corrections
Richard Irwin, Public Member
Donna Erickson, Rural Public Member

FY 2017 CDVSA Staff

L. Diane Casto, Executive Director
Ann Rausch, Prevention Program Coordinator I
MaryBeth Gagnon, Program Coordinator II
Meggie Reinholdt, Program Coordinator I
Rocket Parish, Research Analyst II
Angela Wells, Administrative Assistant II

From Our Board Chair

Rachel Gernat



The Council is thankful for Lauree Morton's past leadership in bringing Alaska to a place where domestic violence and sexual assault are no longer kept secret. Likewise, we are excited by the leadership Diane Casto brings to the Council, and her vision for the future in combating this epidemic.

Alaska and Alaskans have made great strides in raising awareness of domestic and sexual violence all throughout our state. However, we still have work to do to address this violence. The programs we have in place and the organizations and individuals working on the front lines, continue to need the support of the state, so that we can help all Alaskans suffering from interpersonal and sexual violence.

From Our Executive Director

L. Diane Casto



Embracing the change. That's what we've done here at the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) this past year. While change may be painful in the short term, 2017 proved to us that change fosters innovation, develops leaders, and builds efficiencies. Change has created opportunities to adapt in new ways, which inevitably made us grow, both professionally and personally — and that's positive. We believe that by accepting and embracing all the changes at CDVSA, we have undoubtedly recognized the true measure of our strength as an organization and we will continue to build upon that going forward. Throughout the year, our Board of Directors has not waivered. They have stayed focused on the big picture and have supported our initiatives. And we have never lost sight of our vision: Alaska, freed from domestic and sexual violence.

A Year of Change

A bend in the road is not the end of the road...unless you fail to make the turn. Helen Keller

Fiscal year 2017 was truly a year of change, progress, and commitment for the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA). In December 2016, longtime Executive Director Lauree Morton left CDVSA, after having provided six years of statewide leadership. Jayne Andreen, a former CDVSA executive director, was appointed interim director in January 2017, and served until April 30, 2017. On May 1, 2017, L. Diane Casto became the new permanent executive director for CDVSA with a goal to bring stability and opportunity for renewal, growth, and change for the council, its leadership, staff, and partners.

Diane came to CDVSA with more than 38 years of experience in the health and social services field, beginning her career in child abuse and neglect, child sexual abuse, and family violence. Working for CDVSA is like returning to her roots.

Despite the uncertainty that the change in leadership created, the council board, staff, grantees, and community partners saw progress in enhanced services, expanded prevention programming, increased data collection, and analysis. Additionally, the council focused on stabilizing the foundational structure related to federal compliance, updated policies and procedures, and reviews of all CDVSA programs and initiatives to identify areas for revision, improvement, and refocus.

Following the loss of three key positions in FY 2016, CDVSA had to restructure the workload and assignments for staff providing opportunities and challenges for how to "get the core work done." By working together staff continued to provide robust training, technical assistance and monitoring of CDVSA grant funds, and continued initiatives and critical programming required by our federal and state funding resources.

The work, challenges, and opportunities before CDVSA are made easier because of the passion, commitment, and hard work of the board of directors, staff, and partners of CDVSA. FY 2018 is going to be a phenomenal year making renewed progress to free Alaska from domestic violence and sexual assault.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT 05

Partner Training to Improve Outcomes

Children Exposed to Violence & Trauma

Victim services advocates from around the State traveled to Anchorage in May 2017 to attend the Working with Children Exposed to Violence and Trauma in Shelter Settings Training. Funded with the 2015 VOCA Discretionary Training Grant, this curriculum was developed by the Alaska Child Welfare Academy in conjunction with CDVSA in 2016 as a response to feedback from advocates reporting they had not received any formal training on working with children in this capacity. While children receive 43% of shelter services, many of our shelters do not have a designated child advocate. Overwhelmingly, our shelter advocates indicated the need to undergo training to understand the effects of trauma on behavior, as well as the need for hands-on skills to navigate such behaviors. And so, this training was born.

2017 marked the training's second year, with a turnout of 30 attendees. Training feedback indicated the training provided useful information and helpful skill-building practices to use within their shelters. In the future, we plan to provide multidisciplinary training to individual community partners who work with children across various settings, such as school districts, childcare providers, advocacy centers, and other childbased service providers.

Services | Training | Officers | Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women's Act Grant

STOP federal formula grants serve to improve Alaska's response to domestic violence and sexual assault by creating a more coordinated and consistent response to crimes against women and other victims. STOP funds focus specifically on four service areas: prosecution, law enforcement, victim services, and courts. CDVSA has funding agreements with the Alaska Court System, Department of Law, Department

of Public Safety, Alaska State Troopers, and the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, as well as small grant awards to Ketchikan Indian Community and Kenaitze Indian Tribe to provide culturally specific services. Every three to four years, Alaska designs a STOP Implementation Plan to identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities for enhanced and improved services delivery systems.

"I cannot express how beneficial this training is to me and my practice.
I intend to hold a mini review with my fellow SANE back home. Thank you all for all you do." SART Participant

Through our STOP grant, CDVSA hosted two Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) trainings in Anchorage (statewide) and in Kodiak (regional). One hundred and thirteen community members attended these trainings to gain knowledge and skills in organizing and running a community SART, as well as renewing their skills and networking with other SART community members. There are currently 10 active community SARTs focused on providing timely, consistent, and supportive services to individuals who have experienced sexual assault. Teams are comprised of community members from law enforcement, prosecutors, sexual assault trained nurses (SANE), and victim advocates.

Teams receive SART training and follow national best practice protocols to improve outcomes for victims, and accountability for perpetrators. Improved training opportunities, support, and technical assistance for communities developing a sexual assault response system are being developed in FY18.

A Year of Progress

The power to question is the basis of all human progress. Indira Gandhi

Community Victim Services Programming

Community-based victim services emergency shelter and support programs are at the core of CDVSA's mission. These critical emergency services provide immediate safety, crisis intervention, housing, and support to victims and their families 24 hours a day. CDVSA funds 21 community victim services shelters and programs, focusing on emergency services, support, advocacy, housing, legal services, and safety planning. Shelter services are available 24/7, including a 24-hour hotline to meet the needs of victims any time of the day or night.

How agencies receive CDVSA funding

- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
- Sexual Assault Service Program (SASP)
- Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA)
- State general funds
- Federal funds

The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) is a statewide membership coalition of Alaska's victim services programs. CDVSA provides funding to ANDVSA to assist with training, legal services, and ongoing support and advocacy for its statewide member programs.

FY17 Shelter services provided:



3,058

unduplicated participants who received emergency or transitional shelter



106,881 shelter nights provided

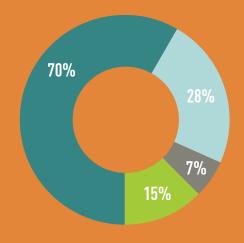


ON AVERAGE

participants who received shelter services stayed an average of 35 nights per year

Primary issues reported by victims being served:

- domestic violence
- sexual assault
- stalking/harassment
- other violent crimes



07

Batterer's Intervention Programs (BIPs) Community-based and Prison-based:

BIPs are provided in Alaska as a joint effort between CDVSA and the Department of Corrections (DOC). Through a Memorandum of Agreement with DOC, CDVSA has the authority to review applications for new BIPs, make recommendations to DOC for approval or denial, monitor ongoing programs, and grant funding for both community and prison-based BIPs to eligible programs. Regulations for the BIP are included in Administrative Code 22 AAC, Chapter 25 within DOC—programs for the rehabilitation of perpetrators of domestic violence.

CDVSA receives interagency receipts from DOC to cover the costs of prison-based BIPs and CDVSA administrative costs to manage both the community and prison-based programming. Funding for Alaska's community-based BIPs was eliminated from the FY17 general fund budget. In FY17, CDVSA used \$200,000 from the Senate Bill (SB) 91 prevention designated general funds and plan to allocate \$220,021 from the SB 91 designated general funds in FY18 to keep these critical programs operating. Of the 10 Alaska Community BIPs, six receive funding and four are approved but not funded.

"It is easier to act your way into a new way of thinking, than to think your way into a new way of acting."

The Power of Positive Deviance; Richard Pascale, Jerry Sternin & Monique Sternin, 2010 BIPs are a unique treatment option for men who engage in battering and abusive behavior with their partners. BIPs are required to have a formal partnership with the local domestic violence and sexual assault shelter(s) in their service area. They provide a minimum of 24 weeks of programming to engage in discussion, self-reflection, and action to change knowledge, beliefs, and most importantly, behaviors. All victims with partners attending a BIP have the option of receiving regular safety checks from the local victims shelter program—a critical component focusing on the safety of victims during this time of programming and change.

FY13-FY17 BIP data and outcomes:

Community-based funded programs:

- 542 participants court-ordered into the programs
- 647 participants accepted into the programs
- 265 participants completed the program (41%)
- 443 participants were non-compliant (68%)
- 89 participants re-arrested for domestic violence (14%)
- 3,399 victim safety checks completed

Prison-based funded programs:

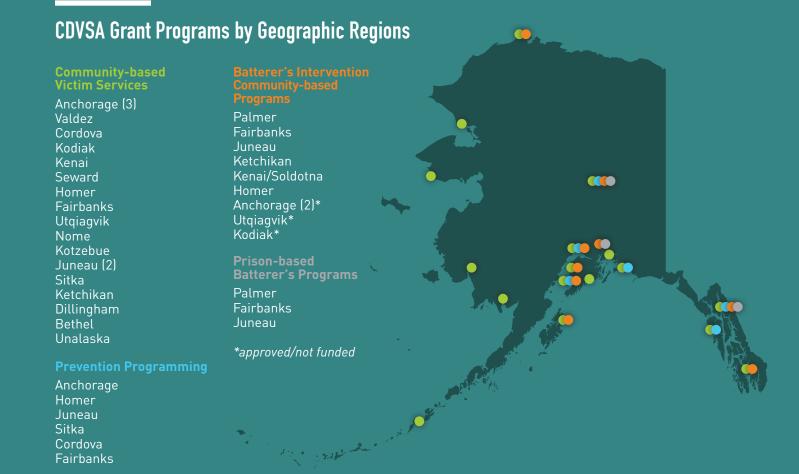
- 188 participants court-ordered into the programs
- 515 participants accepted into the programs
- 144 participants who completed the program (28%)
- 87 participants were non-compliant (19%)
- 86 participants re-arrested for domestic violence (17%)
- 456 victim safety checks completed

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Green Dot is a multidisciplinary collaboration of individuals, non-profits, and businesses that care about ending violence in Alaska. We are committed to changing the culture in Alaska from one that supports violence to one that does NOT tolerate violence and where every citizen knows they are expected to do their part.

During April 2017, Alaskans were invited to show their support for Sexual Assault Awareness Month by visiting greendotalaska.com to learn more about the type of actions in which they could participate throughout the month that would support safer, violence-free communities. During the month, the site featured a list of hundreds of possible Green Dot actions to take and a chart keeping track of all the Green Dot commitments made during the month. Using

the recent Alaska Victimization Survey, we identified that on average, 1,783 acts of violence occur each month. We challenged Alaskans to respond during April by pledging positive actions throughout the month that would outnumber the negative as a way of showing support and acting towards shifting away from community norms that support violence. We met and exceeded our goal with 1,997 pledges to the site by Alaskans pledging to take actions to support community safety. In addition to the April challenge, CDVSA supported the airing of Green Dot intervention PSAs in Green Dot Alaska Community programs: Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai, Homer, Nome, Kodiak, and others to drive traffic to the Green Dot website. Communities also worked together to support Green Dot overview talks and trainings throughout the month.



Preventing interpersonal violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence through community-led primary prevention efforts focused on:

- Capacity building
- Policy
- Youth protective factors/resiliency
- Bystander engagement

In FY17, the Council received \$1 million in designated state general funds due to the passage of Senate Bill 91, the omnibus Criminal Justice Legislation. These resources directly funded:

- Community Based Primary Prevention grants in Anchorage, Homer, Juneau, and Sitka
- Community Readiness and Capacity Building grants in Cordova and Fairbanks
- Statewide training and technical assistance including:
 - 2017 Primary Prevention Summit attended by 18 community prevention teams
 - Statewide prevention staff gathering
 - Mini-grants in partnership with the Alaska School Board Association
 - funded 10 communities to enhance local primary prevention workgroups or coalitions dedicated to the prevention of interpersonal violence, sexual assault, and teen dating violence

• Male engagement including:

- COMPASS: A Guide for Men—a resource for adult male mentors
- Coaching Boys Into Men—training for 16 new high school athletic coaches

Youth engagement including:

- Lead On! with 90 youth participants
- Stand Up Speak Up mini-grants to fund 11 youth led-projects
- Bystander intervention/Green Dot Alaska

On Prevention

"We know that prevention works when funding supports projects that are community-driven, culturally-relevant, and encourage the coordination of local efforts. CDVSA funding has been doing just that by supporting the growing number of Alaska communities engaged in the important work of preventing domestic and sexual violence since 2009." Ann Rausch, CDVSA Prevention Coordinator

Coaching Boys Into Men

"A graduate came to me about two years after high school and thanked me for helping him learn how to treat people, especially girls/women, more respectfully. He said that his childhood was filled with poor examples and role models and he knew that he wanted to be better, but he wasn't sure how to go about it until going through the CBIM program with me."

From a coach using the Coaching Boys Into Men program



University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) Justice Center partnership to research and understand victimization and abuse in Alaska

Since 2010, CDVSA has developed and enjoyed a productive and collaborative relationship with the UAA Justice Center to better understand the extent of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska. The Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS), which is based on a national CDC Survey, was used as the tool for gaining critical and important insight into a comprehensive picture of intimate partner and sexual violence from victims. The AVS survey was first completed in 2010, with a follow-up survey conducted in 2015. In 2017, two years following the last statewide AVS, we are still gaining significant and critical information about the impact of these issues—particularly for Alaska women.

In FY17, two follow-up reports were developed and released based on results from the 2015 AVS: the Statewide and Municipality of Anchorage Stalking Victimization (released in January 2017) and the Statewide Victimization of Alaska Women age 60+ (released in June 2017).

Statewide Stalking Victimization found:

One in three women (more than 80,800) in Alaska have experienced stalking in their lifetime.

One in 17 women (more than 15,300) have experienced stalking in the past year.

The 2015 survey also showed that stalking was particularly common among women who experienced intimate partner violence or sexual violence.

- Among women who experienced intimate partner violence or sexual violence in their lifetime, 50% (more than 66,800) were also stalked in their lifetime.
- Among women who experienced intimate partner violence or sexual violence in the past year, 27% (more than 5,800) were also stalked in the past year.

UAA Justice Center Partnership

In a *Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs survey* conducted by the UAA Justice Center, they found that Alaskans agree that domestic violence and sexual assault are problems in their community (79%); that Alaska adults have a responsibility to intervene if they see such behavior occurring (94.7%); and that when people engage in sexual activity with each other, there needs to be clear, verbal, and conscious agreement throughout the entire sexual experience (88.8%).



Alaska Adult Women 60+

Of the 10,885 adult women in Alaska who participated in the AVS, statewide, and regional surveys from 2010 to 2015, 3,483 were 60+ years old. Findings for this 60+ population include:

More than one in nine Alaska women age 60+ (11.5%) experienced psychological or physical abuse in the past year. One in 24 (4.1%) Alaska women aged 60+ experienced physical abuse and one in 12 (8.4%) experienced psychological abuse (some experienced both).

The Alaska rate for psychological or physical abuse is 1.7 times the national rate for women 60+

The Alaska rate for physical abuse is 2.4 times the national rate.

The Alaska rate for psychological abuse of women 60+ is 1.6 times the national rate.

Overall, 7,148 women in Alaska aged 60 or older experienced psychological or physical abuse in the past year. This includes 2,574 who experienced physical abuse and 5,216 who experienced psychological abuse.

A Year of Commitment

Commitment is an act, not a word. Jean-Paul Sartre

With the arrival of new leadership at CDVSA, the first step was to review all programs, projects, initiatives, and activities currently in place. This review provided a foundation for leadership, staff, and the board to determine what is working well, what challenges exist, and areas for further analysis, enhancement, and action. In addition, the review examined the data CDVSA collects and how it is being used to drive decision making, program approaches, and new initiatives that may be missing. CDVSA is committed to being a data-driven organization.

"My approach is to start with a thorough review of what we've done, to look at the data and decide, are we doing everything we should or are some things not working. I'm a real data-driven person. I want to make sure we address issues that are not showing progress. I want to open the doors to a lot of ideas...and then figure out a clear path to move forward."

L. Diane Casto

The initial review brought forward three main areas to focus more attention and analysis:

 Agency policies, procedures, and practices related to federal and state compliance. Areas of need included procurement, issuance of grant awards, distribution of quarterly grant funds, grantee monitoring and compliance, and having a strategic process for expending increased federal VOCA funding;

- 2. SART training; and
- 3. A collaboration between CDVSA and the Department of Corrections regarding batterer's programs.

Improved policies, procedures, practices, and VOCA funds

Agency policies, procedures, and practices are undergoing review, revisions, updates, and development. Of note is the update to all policies related to our federal VOCA funding; major changes were made to VOCA regulations in FFY16 that significantly impact how we continue to award and distribute these funds. In addition, a strategic plan for how to allocate and distribute increased VOCA funds that began in FFY16 is being developed for new requests for proposals (RFP) to be issued for the FY19 funding cycle.

VOCA is encouraging states to broaden their reach, develop more partnerships, and to focus on both the core services of emergency shelter for victims, as well as ancillary services such as housing, substance abuse, mental health services, legal services, language access, and trauma-informed approaches to service delivery.

Alaska's Sexual Assault Response System (SARS)

Alaska continues to rank number one nationally in prevalence of sexual assault and rape. This unacceptable statistic needs to be addressed "head-on" with a determination to reduce all sexual assault in Alaska. One program CDVSA helps facilitate is the implementation of sexual assault response teams (SARTs).

While SARTs are a critical component of an active, immediate, and supportive response to sexual assault at the community level, our review highlighted several gaps and challenges to maximize their effectiveness. First, CDVSA must provide a higher level of leadership necessary to grow, advance, and meet the diverse needs of Alaska and its communities. While funding is available to provide SART training to communities, no additional funds are available to provide sustainable teams, to collect and analyze data, and provide technical assistance and support.

In addition, SARTs require specific resources in terms of skill, multidisciplinary team members, expertise in sexual assault response, and forensic exams—many communities do not have, nor will they ever have, the human and funding resources to develop and support a SART. However, every community should have a sexual assault response system (SARS).

With the development of a new SARS Leadership Team, the future goal is to create a broader, more diverse and community-driven approach to sexual assault response in every Alaska community. Most importantly, we want to allow each community to discover the most appropriate approach for their own community. Communities know best the needs, challenges, and underlying issues to be addressed to develop a successful sexual assault response system to meet their needs.

Batterer's Intervention Programs (BIP)

As with sexual abuse, Alaska ranks high with domestic violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, and bullying behavior. During the leadership's review of CDVSA's programming, BIP was identified for further review, revision, and

restructuring to improve the effectiveness and efficacy of the program. The initial review shows that BIPs are not funded, monitored, or supported as effectively as needed to maintain strong perpetrator treatment and services. There is a lack of consistency, data collection, and ongoing monitoring for both our community-based and prison-based BIPs.

Better assessment tools and alternative programs for those who need treatment but may not require a full 24 or 52-week program are needed. Currently, CDVSA has the responsibility to review and monitor current programs, and to assist agencies working through the approval process. Current BIP regulations are more than 20 years old and must be revised to better meet today's needs.

Data collection is another challenge; having easy and regular access to the data in two databases is inconsistent, and data is not being used regularly to benefit program planning and decision-making. Only programs receiving CDVSA funding are submitting data; therefore, we are not collecting data for the four non-funded programs. This leaves us with limited and incomplete data to determine the effectiveness of these programs.

Staffing to accomplish the necessary tasks to assess, monitor, recruit new providers, review, and provide TA to potential new applicants, data collection, and data analysis is not available.

In FY18, CDVSA will undertake a survey of all BIP programs to fully understand the level of current programming, the unmet need for BIP services, and the development of a BIP plan for action.

Who Funds CDVSA?

CDVSA Funding and Finances

State|Federal funding partnership to end domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska:

FY 17 Financial Resources

In FY17 CDVSA experienced an overall 7% increase in funding from FY16. Federal grant receipts increased by 17% while unrestricted general funds and inter-agency receipts were reduced. New designated general funds of \$1.0 million received due to Senate Bill 91.

FUNDING SOURCE	FY16	FY17	% CHANGE
Federal Grants	3,642,800.00	4,279,229.85	17.47%
Unrestricted General Funds	11,244,700.00	10,690,307.83	-4.93%
Inter-Agency Receipts	208,300.00	199,700.00	-4.13%
Designated General Funds for Prevention	0	977,710.73	_
Grand Total	15,095,800.00	16,146,948.41	6.96%

EXPENSES	FY16	FY17	% CHANGE
Payroll	888,000.00	694,453.42	-21.80%
Travel	149,100.00	79,470.18	-46.70%
Services and Contracts	483,900.00	1,299,815.60	168.61%
Commodities	8,900.00	51,529.34	478.98%
Grants	13,565,900.00	14,021,679.87	3.36%
Grand Total	15,095,800.00	16,146,948.41	6.96%

FY17 GRANT LINE DETAIL	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Community Based Primary Prevention (CBPP)	296,296.00	2.11%
Community Readiness	99,394.00	0.71%
Domestic Violence Program	12,741,589.70	90.87%
Grants to Encourage Arrest	169,572.03	1.21%
Justice For Families	95,736.50	0.68%
Primary Prevention	100,000.00	0.71%
Prison's Batterer Program	98,237.00	0.70%
Sexual Assault Services Program	172,670.49	1.23%
Victim Services Training for Officers and Prosecutors	248,185.00	1.77%
	14,021,680.72	100.00%

State General Funding

State GF comprised much of CDVSA FY17 funding:

- Unrestricted
- Designated
- Inter-agency Receipts

Federal Funding

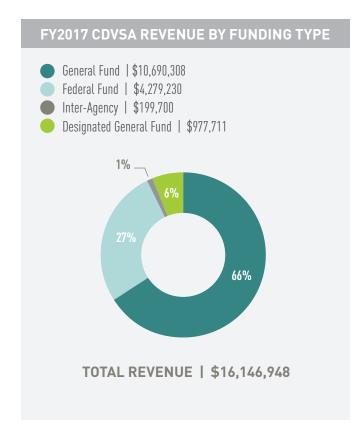
Formula Funding—identified federal funding provided to all states through an identified funding formula:

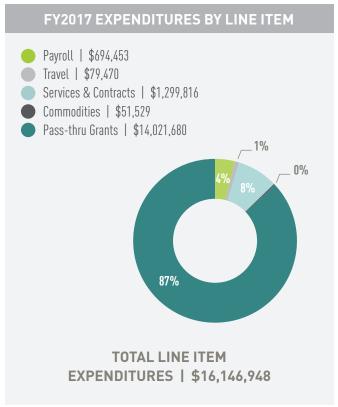
- Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA) administered by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
- Violence Against Women Act—STOP grant administered by the U.S. Dept. of Justice Office on Violence Against Women

- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) administered by the U.S. Dept. of Justice Office of Victims of Crime
- Sexual Assault Services Programs (SASP)
 administered by the U.S. Dept. of Justice Office
 on Violence Against Women

Federal Discretionary Funding—funding available to states and other entities through competitive application:

- Justice for Families (JFF) funded through the U.S. Dept. of Justice Office on Violence Against Women
- Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies Program (GTEA) funded through the U.S. Dept. of Justice Office on Violence Against Women
- VOCA Training Grant funded through the U.S.
 Dept. of Justice Office of Victims of Crimes





Helpful Links and Resources

For a listing of all statewide programs for victims go to https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Services/VictimServices

For a copy of Alaska's STOP Four Year Implementation Plan, FFY 2017-2020 go to: https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Resources/ STOP-Plan

For a listing of Alaska's SART programs go to: https://dos.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Services/ForWomer

For a listing of all statewide programs for men go to: https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Services/ForMenWhoCommitD\

To review and obtain copies of the AVS surveys go to: https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/depart-ments/justice-center/research/alaska-victimization-survey/

https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Home



Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

change progress commitment

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