

State of Alaska
FY2004 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Public Safety
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Budget Request Unit Budget Summary

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Budget Request Unit

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BRU Mission

To reduce the causes and incidence and to alleviate the effects of domestic violence and sexual assault.

BRU Services Provided

See individual components for services provided.

BRU Goals and Strategies

- Intervene in the cycle of violence by providing a continuum of services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault to help minimize the impact of the violence, and to provide education and outreach in order to prevent future violence.
- Through a common vision, create a strong network among individuals working to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and to ensure a coordinated community response to domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive prevention effort about domestic violence and sexual assault, which moves people toward a common philosophy of zero tolerance.

Key BRU Issues for FY2003 – 2004

Crimes of domestic violence and sexual assault are unacceptable, yet the crime rate against women in the United States continues to be significantly higher than in other countries. In the United States a woman is beaten every 15 seconds, and every 2 minutes a rape occurs.

Nationwide, more than one million abused women each year seek medical assistance for injuries caused by abuse. Medical expenses from domestic violence total at least \$5 to \$10 billion annually.

Crimes of domestic violence and sexual assault are even greater in Alaska. In 2001, sixteen Alaskans died as a result of violence in the family. Domestic violence affects Alaskans of every ethnic, economic, religious, cultural, and geographical group. According to the Institute of Social and Economic Research, women in Alaska face a much higher risk of homicide than women nationwide. Non-Native Alaskan women are killed 1.5 times more often than the average for women in the United States. Native women are killed 4.5 times more often.

Domestic violence is one of the primary indicators of child abuse, with half of perpetrators who beat their wives also admit beating their children. The Division of Family and Youth Services reports more than 17,000 cases of child abuse and neglect in FY2001 alone. Reports of suspected and adjudicated child sexual abuse for 2001 totaled 1,870 cases. Recent studies indicate that one in three children in Alaska will experience sexual abuse in some form by the age of 18.

Since 1993, Alaska has had the dubious distinction of being number one in the nation for the highest rate of reported rapes per capita. It is estimated that only about a third of all sexual assaults are reported to authorities. In 2001, there were 275 sexual assaults reported to Alaska State Troopers. Using these estimates, it means that the actual number of sexual assaults was more than 825.

Finally, the problem of violence against women includes their children. Experts estimate that between 3.3 and 10 million children nationwide witness domestic violence each year. An estimated 87% of children in homes with domestic violence witness the abuse. During FY2002, 1,893 minors joined their mothers in receiving services from the domestic violence and sexual assault intervention agencies in Alaska.

The most effective way to impact the crimes of violence against women is to have a strong societal and criminal justice response that holds offenders accountable for their actions. Alaska has many positive responses and systems in place to address these crimes. Domestic violence and sexual assault community-based programs exist throughout Alaska. The Alaska State Troopers and local police departments have strong intervention based protocols for responding to crimes against women, as does the Department of Law. The Legislature has passed legislation that emphasizes the criminal nature of these offenses.

Alaska has been recognized for the breadth and depth of its Omnibus Domestic Violence Bill that was passed in 1996. The state improved access, relief, and enforcement of protection orders; the state addressed accountability for batterers in the form of enhanced penalties, firearms restrictions, mandatory jail time, and development of batterers programs; the state protected child custody rights for abused women, required training for police and court personnel and increased victim safety by requiring notification of any change of status for an inmate.

Yet, problems remain in effectively impacting the crimes of domestic violence and sexual assault. Much more needs to be done. Alaska needs to:

- provide more resources for shelters, transitional housing, and victim services including services to children;
- address the needs of rural Alaska to more effectively respond to domestic violence and sexual assault in the bush and villages;
- coordinate community responses to domestic violence and sexual assault;
- pay much greater attention to how domestic violence affects children and
- hold offenders more accountable for their violence.

Major BRU Accomplishments in 2002

CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES

The Council continued funding for 21 domestic violence and sexual assault agencies which provided:

54,688	Nights of safety in shelters and safe homes
8,699	Emergency and other transports of victims
8,545	Crisis intervention services to victims and their children
10,554	Crisis calls to 24-hour toll-free lines in 18 Alaskan communities
10,039	Safety checks and follow-up services
3,644	Protective order and court accompaniments
112,148	Individual and group counseling services
12,185	Advocacy services to medical, law enforcement, courts, other agencies
6,956	Legal advocacy services
10,964	Childcare services

PREVENTION EDUCATION

Council-funded programs continued domestic violence and sexual assault prevention activities aimed at youth aged 11 to 19 years old, including peer group counseling programs, youth-generated community education programs and youth retreats to learn about domestic violence and sexual assault. Additionally, the Council distributed a teen education video to 52 school districts throughout Alaska. In conjunction with Stand Together Against Rape, the Council aired two video public service announcements statewide during April for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY (VINE)

In fulfilling its obligation under the Domestic Violence Act, the Department of Corrections implemented the VINE system, a computer program, which provides victims of crime continuous access to vital inmate information over the phone. By calling the VINE telephone number, a crime victim can determine the current custody status of the person who victimized them. Victims can also register with the VINE program to be automatically notified of the release, transfer or

escape of the inmate. The Council provided staffing for technical assistance calls. The service is for victims of all violent crimes.

CENTRAL REGISTRY OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS

To improve victim safety by tracking protective orders, the Department of Public Safety developed and is maintaining a central registry of protective orders issued by or filed with the court, including out of state protective orders. The registry was implemented in the existing Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) which provides 24-hour, seven days a week availability. The registry includes emergency, ex parte, and protective orders as well as historical data for all three types of orders. Alaska is also a participant in the federal Protection Order File contained in the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

Prosecutors now have access to information about current and past civil orders which provides the history of the offender with current and former partners. The information is essential to courts when determining conditions of release (pretrial and post conviction) in order to coordinate effective protection mechanisms for victims and their family members. Probation and parole officers also access this information to improve their ability to monitor offenders and increase victim safety.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

As the lead agency for the Violence Against Women Act STOP Project, the Planning Committee developed a collaborative statewide effort with law enforcement, prosecution, courts, victim advocates and service providers, and achieved the following:

Victim Services: Continued the Legal Advocacy Project which provided training and legal consultation to victim advocates, provided legal representation to immigrant battered women, provided a pro-bono attorney program, increased access to translators in the court system, and developed a legal information and referral hotline for victims.

Prosecution: Conducted a statewide conference for prosecutors and paralegals on cyberstalking, date rape drugs, and forensic science advancements, provided a paralegal coordinator to mentor and train paralegals in assisting domestic violence and sexual assault clients, worked with CRIMES case management system, and translated victims rights brochures into Spanish.

Law Enforcement: Continued statewide training of law enforcement officers on the dynamics of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking; expanded training to dispatchers on responding to domestic violence calls; provided funding for sexual assault response trainings; and reprinted information booklets for victims of domestic violence.

Judicial: Trained judges, magistrates, and other court personnel on domestic violence dynamics, developed telephonic interpreter services, and implemented court case coordination in Anchorage.

Rural Outreach Model: Developed a rural outreach model of service provision to diverse and traditionally underserved populations. The model was designed through a collaborative effort of 11 professionals from rural victim services agencies across Alaska.

Coordinated Community Councils: CDVSA funded projects to conduct a community safety audit, to develop a criminal and civil action database, and to initiate a court watch program.

Key Performance Measures for FY2004

Measure:

The percentage of continuing clients

Sec 122 Ch 124 SLA 2002(HB 515)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

FY2002 case numbers

Total number of victims of domestic violence: 5,574

Total number of victims of domestic violence seeking services more than once: 2,097
Percentage: 38%

Total number of victims of sexual assault: 1,851
Total number of victims of sexual assault seeking services more than once: 359
Percentage: 19%

FY2001 case numbers

Total number of victims of domestic violence: 7,271
Total number of victims of domestic violence seeking services more than once: 3,563
Percentage: 49%

Total number of victims of sexual assault: 2,146
Total number of victims of sexual assault seeking services more than once: 500
Percentage: 23%

The data represent clients served by Council-funded programs.

Background and Strategies:

The national average number of times a victim of domestic violence needs to be in a shelter prior to having enough resources, safety and confidence to permanently remove the victim from the violence is 12 visits.

As part of the coordinated community response to end domestic violence, shelters and programs statewide provide continuing services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as long as they are in need of help. Thus the percentage of continuing clients can reflect two scenarios: women and children empowered and enabled to leave abusive situations; and women and children continuing the healing process toward the goal of living without violence.

Statistically, two years of data does not indicate a trend. While the number of cases are down in FY2002, FY2003 cases will be closely monitored. Initial indications from national sources point to an increase in violent crimes. This may manifest itself in Alaska as well.

Measure:

The percentage of the Council's budget spent on prevention

Sec 122 Ch 124 SLA 2002(HB 515)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

Council's budget, by fiscal year, allocated specifically for prevention efforts:

FY2003 - 46%
FY2002 - 38%
FY2001 - 45%
FY2000 - 42%

Background and Strategies:

The budget amount spent on prevention is calculated by specific projects and activities identified each year for system change and improvement, media outreach, prevention campaigns, and outreach to rural areas. This amount fluctuates based on the special project funds available on a federal level each year.

Measure:

The cost of shelter per night

Sec 122 Ch 124 SLA 2002(HB 515)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

Estimated cost per shelter night:

FY2002 - \$77.04
 FY2001 - \$69.83 (calculated by using the CPI of 2.7% to adjust FY2000 cost per shelter night)
 FY2000 - \$68.00

Background and Strategies:

This estimate is determined by taking the costs of all direct services including staff, rent, insurance, utilities, and food costs and dividing this amount by the number of clients served. These costs reflect Council supported funding. Additional shelter costs are covered by individual contributions, corporate funding, non-profit contributions and other community based fund sources.

Measure:

The percentage reduction in domestic violence and sexual assault per dollar spent annually
 Sec 122 Ch 124 SLA 2002(HB 515)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

Estimated prevention funds:

FY2003	\$4,477.9
FY2002	\$3,769.0
FY2001	\$4,411.0
FY2000	\$3,919.0

Percentage reduction in domestic violence and sexual assault cases from FY1999-FY2000, FY2000-FY2001, and from FY2001-FY2002.

DPS Data	FY99-FY00	FY00-FY01	FY01-FY02
Sexual Assault Cases	+12.8%	-27.0%	-46.0%
Domestic Violence Cases	+39.9%	+10.0%	-3.0%
Combined DV/SA Cases	+30.8%	+5.0%	-41.0%

Background and Strategies:

The amount of prevention funds include all state and federal funds that are provided to law enforcement, prosecution, courts, corrections and victims service programs to work towards ending domestic violence and sexual assault. The case numbers reflect only cases reported to the Alaska State Troopers and recorded in APSIN. There are several key factors in considering this measure. Historically, fewer than a third of all domestic violence and sexual assault cases are ever reported to law enforcement.

Measure:

The incidence of reported domestic violence and sexual assault cases
 Sec 122 Ch 124 SLA 2002(HB 515)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

DPS Reports	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002
Domestic Violence Cases	2904	3208	2206
Sexual Assault Cases	387	284	275
Sexual Abuse of a Minor	611	543	385

Background and Strategies:

For this measure, the data is drawn from APSIN cases addressed by the Alaska State Troopers.

Measure:

The number of homicides from domestic violence and sexual assault
 Sec 122 Ch 124 SLA 2002(HB 515)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

These numbers are based on calendar year, not fiscal year.

CY2001 DV related homicides	16
CY2000 DV related homicides	5
CY1999 DV related homicides	22
CY1998 DV related homicides	14

Background and Strategies:

For CY2001, data was gathered from APSIN and from Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau police departments. Prior year numbers which did not reflect local police department investigations provided a less than accurate picture of the level of violence.

For comparison purposes, the APSIN number of homicides for CY2001 is seven.

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

BRU Financial Summary by Component

All dollars in thousands

	FY2002 Actuals				FY2003 Authorized				FY2004 Governor			
	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds
<u>Formula Expenditures</u>	None.											
<u>Non-Formula Expenditures</u>												
Domestic Viol/Sexual Assault	551.5	2,543.7	5,513.0	8,608.2	367.2	3,488.6	5,869.4	9,725.2	0.0	4,960.6	4,774.2	9,734.8
Victims for Justice	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	246.0	0.0	0.0	246.0
Batterers Intervention Program	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	200.0	200.0
Totals	551.5	2,543.7	5,513.0	8,608.2	367.2	3,488.6	5,869.4	9,725.2	246.0	4,960.6	4,974.2	10,180.8

**Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2004**

There is an expected reduction of Batterer's Intervention services due to a 38% decrease in General Funds (\$120.0) to the program. This reduction will impact the level of services non-profit organizations are able to provide. Batterers' intervention programs through for-profit agencies may be able to provide some of the services previously provided by the non-profits.

Though not expected to result in a change to the level of services, the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is undergoing significant funding changes in FY2004. Federal TANF funding which has come to CDVSA through I/A receipts from DH&SS has been eliminated and will be replaced for one year only with federal VOCA funds. In addition, in FY2004, \$367.2 in general funds have been eliminated from the Governor's Budget. The Council will begin providing services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault for the Department of Health and Social Services under an RSA for \$367.2 I/A Receipts, funded through alcohol tax revenue appropriated to DHSS.

**Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Summary of BRU Budget Changes by Component
From FY2003 Authorized to FY2004 Governor**

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2003 Authorized	367.2	3,488.6	5,869.4	9,725.2
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Domestic Viol/Sexual Assault	0.0	2.0	7.6	9.6
Proposed budget decreases:				
-Domestic Viol/Sexual Assault	-367.2	0.0	-1,470.0	-1,837.2
-Batterers Intervention Program	-120.0	0.0	0.0	-120.0
Proposed budget increases:				
-Domestic Viol/Sexual Assault	0.0	1,470.0	367.2	1,837.2
FY2004 Governor	246.0	4,960.6	4,974.2	10,180.8