

State of Alaska
FY2005 Governor's Operating Budget

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

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Component: Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Contribution to Department's Mission

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

Core Services

- Develop, implement, maintain, and monitor domestic violence and sexual assault crisis intervention and prevention programs;
- Coordinate services provided by state agencies and community groups dealing with domestic violence and sexual assault, and provide technical assistance to those agencies and groups;
- Develop and implement a standardized data collection system on domestic violence and sexual assault;
- Conduct public hearings and studies on issues relating to violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault, and on issues relating to the role of crisis intervention and prevention;
- Receive and dispense state and federal money, award grants and contracts to qualified local community entities for domestic violence and sexual assault crisis intervention and prevention programs;
- Oversee and audit domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs that receive these funds;
- Provide fiscal and technical assistance to domestic violence and sexual assault programs;
- Adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of AS 18.66 and to protect the health, safety, well being, and privacy of persons receiving services financed with grants or contracts under that chapter;
- Consult with the Department of Health and Social Services in the formulation of standards and procedures for the delivery of services to victims of domestic violence by health care facilities, practitioners of healing arts, and personnel in those facilities;
- Consult with the Alaska Police Standards Council and other police training programs in the state to develop training programs regarding domestic violence for police, correction, probation, and parole officers; and
- Consult with public employers, the Alaska Supreme Court, school districts, and prosecuting authorities to provide continuing education courses in domestic violence to employees.

FY2005 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2005 Component Budget: \$9,095,600	Personnel:	
	Full time	8
	Part time	0
	Total	8

Key Component Challenges

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. In 1999 nearly 2,000 murders were attributed to intimate partners. Every two minutes a rape occurs in the United States. According to a study compiled by the staff of the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, 25 million of the American women alive today either have been or will be raped at least once in their lifetime.

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. Businesses forfeit another \$100 million in lost wages, sick leave, absenteeism, and non-productivity (Colorado Domestic Violence Coalition, 1991).

Most victims of domestic violence have nowhere to go. More than half of all homeless women are on the street because they are fleeing domestic violence. In the entire United States, there are only 2,000 shelters for battered women and children compared to 5,042 animal shelters.

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 admitting to beating their children. The Office of Children's Services reported 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. The Rape Prevention Education Council estimates that only about a third of all sexual assaults are reported to authorities. In FY2003, there were 574 cases of child and adult sexual assaults reported to Alaska State Troopers. Using these estimates, it means that the actual number of sexual assaults was more than 1,722.

Why is there such a low reporting rate? Only 15 percent of the assaults fit what is the traditionally accepted concept of rape: a stranger surprises the victim in an isolated area. In the remaining 85 percent of all sexual assaults the offender is known to the victim, which can confuse the victim and society's perception of responsibility. The victim may question herself for culpability. Coupled with the knowledge of society's misperceptions of rape, a victim may be reluctant to come forward and expose herself to the second "victimization" by society.

Experts estimate between 3.3 and 10 million children nationwide witness domestic violence each year. An estimated 87 percent 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. Violence against women affects their children.

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 its Omnibus Domestic Violence Bill, passed in 1996. The bill improved access, relief, and enforcement of protection orders; addressed accountability for batterers in the form of enhanced penalties, firearms restrictions, mandatory jail time, and development of batterers programs; 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 greater attention to how domestic violence affects children; and
- hold offenders accountable for their violence.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2005

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, like other state agencies, is facing a budget decrease for

FY2005. The council will lose an estimated \$648,000 to \$1,100,000 in federal funds, which will greatly impact the ability of the 21 council-funded programs to provide services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. In anticipation of this shortfall, the council is currently looking at cost-cutting measures to increase efficiency while attempting to lessen the impact of these cuts on shelter programs. Some cost-cutting measures the council is looking into include but are not limited to:

1. Re-assessing the current funding process
2. Encouraging the consolidation of services in certain geographical areas
3. Re-evaluating the use of the Violence Against Women Stop funding (VAWA).

The council staff is currently exploring all avenues of alternative funding sources.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2003

CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES

The council continued funding for 21 domestic violence and sexual assault agencies that provided:

58,594 Nights of safety in shelters and safe homes
10,299 Emergency and other transport of victims
11,273 Crisis intervention services to victims and their children
9,134 Crisis calls to 24-hour toll-free lines in 18 Alaskan communities
9,909 Safety checks and follow-up services
4,001 Protective order and court accompaniments
134,909 Individual and group counseling services
21,090 Advocacy services to medical, law enforcement, courts and other agencies
7,120 Legal advocacy services
11,533 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 Standing 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, crime victims can determine the current custody status of a 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 with 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 day a week availability. The registry includes emergency, *ex parte*, and long-term protective orders, as well as historical data for all three order types. 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 that provides the offender's history 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, comprised of the CDVSA and some CDVSA staff, 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 (11,040 case consultations provided since beginning of project). Legal representation is provided to immigrant battered women on immigration issues and domestic violence. More than 454 immigrant women have received assistance since the implementation of that program. The Pro Bono Project is another excellent example of community collaborations with a direct benefit to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Pro Bono Project provides technical assistance on such legal issues as child custody and divorce and representation to victims of domestic violence in family law. More than 134 volunteer attorneys have participated in the program, providing representation to more than 800 victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The pro bono attorneys donate an average of 25-85 hours to each case. Pro Bono attorneys are recruited through an annual continuing legal education training on domestic violence and family law sponsored by the Legal Advocacy Project. The Legal Advocacy Project has also developed a legal information and referral hotline for victims staffed by volunteer attorneys assisting with more than 290 calls from victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. One client provided the following feedback on the Legal Advocacy Project: "Your program has given me and my children a whole new life with the rights, freedoms, and dreams most people take for granted. Words can't express the gratitude we have for you giving us back a bright future and taking us out of the darkness." In addition to these programs, VAWA funds have supported development of various resource materials for victims and advocates. Updated resources include the Legal Advocacy Curriculum, *Women's Legal Rights Handbook*, *Full Faith and Credit* booklet, and videos on Alaska protective order process and safety planning available in Yup'ik, Spanish, and English. Other projects funded through VAWA include development, production, and statewide distribution of a training video and manual entitled "Safety Planning for Children"; the *Sexual Assault Response Guidelines for Service Providers Manual*; increased access to translators in the court system; and a legal information and referral hotline for victims.

Prosecution: Conducted a statewide conference for prosecutors and victim-witness paralegals on "Working to End Terror in Our Alaska Homes" that included topics on appellate decisions, issues in the investigation, preparation and prosecution of domestic violence cases, and working with immigrant victims of crimes, cyberstalking, date rape drugs, and forensic science advancements. STOP funds provided a victim-witness paralegal coordinator to mentor and train victim-witness paralegals in assisting domestic violence and sexual assault clients, worked with CRIMES case management system, and translated reprinted victims rights brochures into Spanish with updated information. Finally, STOP funds training on domestic violence and sexual assault prosecution for state prosecutors.

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 training; and reprinted information booklets for victims of domestic violence.

Judicial: Trained judges, magistrates, and other court personnel on domestic violence dynamics; continued providing telephonic interpreter services; implemented court case coordination in Anchorage; and improved security at court buildings. Other federal grants have allowed the court system to increase coordination and collaboration among judges on domestic violence cases and to design and implement enhancements to the court case management system.

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. Provided grants to 13 domestic violence programs across Alaska to design, create, and enhance innovative outreach programs for rural victims of domestic violence.

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

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

- 1) Child Protection and Training (AS 47.17.022)
- 2) Child Protection - Duties of department in domestic violence cases (AS 47.17.035)
- 3) Claims - Presentation of claims required (2 AAC 25.010)
- 4) Conflict of Interest - Report of financial and business interests (AS 39.50.020)
- 5) Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (13 AAC 90.010-190)
- 6) Department of Corrections - Duties of department (AS 44.28.020)
- 7) Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (AS 18.66.010-990)
- 8) Domestic Violence Training (AS 18.65.510)
- 9) Grant Administration - Audit requirements (2 AAC 45.010)
- 10) Grant Programs (13 AAC 95.010-900)
- 11) Health and Safety Education - Curriculum (AS 14.30.360)
- 12) Permanent Fund - Public Notice (AS 43.23.028)
- 13) Sentencing and Probation - day fines (AS 12.55.036)
- 14) Termination of state boards and commissions (AS 44.66.010)

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**Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Component Financial Summary**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2003 Actuals	FY2004 Authorized	FY2005 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	486.5	523.9	503.7
72000 Travel	47.7	61.5	83.5
73000 Contractual	536.3	1,255.3	1,152.3
74000 Supplies	13.4	12.3	12.3
75000 Equipment	3.9	6.2	16.2
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	7,989.1	7,875.6	7,327.6
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	9,076.9	9,734.8	9,095.6
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	2,966.5	4,960.6	4,315.7
1004 General Fund Receipts	338.9	0.0	351.8
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	1,766.7	765.4	1,321.1
1171 PF Dividend Appropriations in lieu of Dividends to Criminals	4,004.8	4,008.8	3,107.0
Funding Totals	9,076.9	9,734.8	9,095.6

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2003 Actuals	FY2004 Authorized	FY2005 Governor
Unrestricted Revenues				
Permanent Fund Dividend Fund	51160	4,004.8	4,008.8	3,107.0
Unrestricted Total		4,004.8	4,008.8	3,107.0
Restricted Revenues				
Federal Receipts	51010	2,966.5	4,960.6	4,315.7
Interagency Receipts	51015	1,766.7	765.4	1,321.1
Restricted Total		4,733.2	5,726.0	5,636.8
Total Estimated Revenues		8,738.0	9,734.8	8,743.8

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2004 Authorized to FY2005 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2004 Authorized	0.0	4,960.6	4,774.2	9,734.8
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Replace PFD Crim with GF and TANF	351.8	0.0	-351.8	0.0
-Changes to Retirement and Other Personal Services Rates	0.0	3.1	16.3	19.4
Proposed budget decreases:				
-Reduce federal authorization to reflect anticipated receipts	0.0	-648.0	0.0	-648.0
-Delete unrealizable funding source due to PERS increment	0.0	0.0	-10.6	-10.6
FY2005 Governor	351.8	4,315.7	4,428.1	9,095.6

**Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Personal Services Information**

Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs		
	FY2004 Authorized	FY2005 Governor		
Full-time	8	8	Annual Salaries	342,435
Part-time	0	0	Premium Pay	0
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	172,951
			<i>Less 2.27% Vacancy Factor</i>	(11,686)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	8	8	Total Personal Services	503,700

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Assistant	0	0	1	0	1
Administrative Clerk II	0	0	1	0	1
Administrative Manager II	0	0	1	0	1
Assoc Coordinator	0	0	3	0	3
Exec Dir Council DVA	0	0	1	0	1
Statistical Technician I	0	0	1	0	1
Totals	0	0	8	0	8