

**State of Alaska Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) Governance Subcommittee
Meeting Statutory Requirements
December 20, 2024**

**State of Alaska Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA)
Governance Subcommittee Meeting
December 20, 2024**

Meeting Statutory Requirements

The statutory responsibilities of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) are found in [AS 18.66.010](#) *Duties of the council* with the primary purpose of planning and coordinating services for victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault, as well as providing crisis intervention and prevention programs. This document outlines the various ways that CDVSA currently meets its statutory obligations through programs and agency coordination.

Key responsibilities of the CDVSA may be summarized as:

1. Program Development and Oversight

- Develop, implement, maintain, and monitor programs related to domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention, including educational initiatives and school curricula.
 - i. Coordination of programs through CDVSA membership.
- Oversee and audit programs receiving state or federal funding to ensure compliance and effectiveness.
 - i. [Q2 Executive Director Report](#) - Federal Audit: September 2024
 - Sexual Assault Service Program (SASP) funds,
 - Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP funds, and
 - Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) Byrne Discretionary funds

2. Coordination and Consultation

- Coordinate services among various state departments, including Law, Education and Early Development, Public Safety, Health and Social Services, and Corrections, as well as community groups.
 - i. Coordinated through CDVSA councilmembers and staff
 - ii. [Pathways to Prevention Statewide Plan 2019-2024](#)
 - Recommendations from the September 2024 Pathways to Prevention meeting are forthcoming.
- Provide technical assistance to these agencies and consult with entities like the Alaska Police Standards Council to develop training programs for law enforcement and correctional officers.
 - i. [CDVSA Grantee Support](#)

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Current Program Coordinators:

Prevention Services – Danielle Redmond

Victim Services – Morgan Stonecipher, Jen LaRoe

Batterer Intervention Program (BIP)/ Prison-Based Program (PBP) – Lisa Morley

3. Data Collection and Research

- Develop and implement a standardized data collection system on domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention.
 - i. VELA – standardized data collection system
[Submitting Data to CDVSA for VELA Users](#) (April 2024)
- Conduct public hearings and studies on issues related to violence and the role of crisis intervention and prevention.
 - i. [UAA Victimization Survey October 2020](#)
 - ii. Funding for 2025 UAA Victimization Survey [approved by CDVSA](#) July 10, 2024

4. Funding and Support

- Receive and distribute state and federal funds through grants and contracts to qualified local community entities for relevant programs.

Prevention Program Funding

- [FY2022 - FY2024 Primary Prevention Programs Grant Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#): \$1.4M
 - RFP Proposal Evaluation Committee: [June 2021](#), [July 2021](#)
 - The Council supports a range of community based primary prevention programming to reduce and ultimately prevent first time occurrences of intimate partner violence (IPV), teen dating violence (TDV), and sexual violence (SV). In this RFP, the Council is seeking applicants who will focus on community based, upstream approaches to prevention. Applicants should demonstrate their commitment and ability to coordinate prevention partnerships with individuals, agencies, and other relevant stakeholders in their community and/or service area to reduce the burden associated with these forms of violence. To achieve this, applicants to this RFP must demonstrate that prevention efforts will be community based and coalition driven with stakeholders representing the diversity of the community or service area. Applicants must demonstrate how the implemented strategies and programs are chosen through a cooperative and data driven process. In addition, applicants responding to this RFP are also required to become familiar with the Social Ecological Model (SEM) framework and the Shared

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Risk and Protective Factor (SRPF) approach to planning and program implementation.

The Council determined that project proposals in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) should focus on strengthening community based, coalition driven IPV/TDV/SV primary prevention programming in the following ways:

- Enhance Organizational Capacity for Primary Prevention. A priority area of work for Council funded prevention efforts is building organizational capacity for primary prevention in the following domains: leadership, structures and processes, staffing, partnership development, and resource development. All applicants will complete an inventory of Organizational Practices to Improve Prevention Capacity as part of this application in the above listed domains.
- Support existing efforts to become more comprehensive. Comprehensive programs reinforce complementary messaging across all levels of the SEM, i.e. the same person needs to hear complementary prevention messages in multiple settings of their life including work, school, home, neighborhood, community, and society at large.
- Increase new or existing coalition efforts to identify prevention strategies for implementation that address multiple forms of violence and/or related social conditions that share common risk and/or protective factors with IPV/TDV/SA to better align local efforts, leverage limited resources, achieve greater impacts and improve sustainability through common goals and strengthened partnerships.
- Promote equity and inclusion by being culturally responsive. For IPV/TDV and SV prevention efforts to be successful, cultural responsiveness must be central to all efforts. “Effective cultural responsiveness addresses the culture and needs of the community where prevention efforts are taking place, which can include but are not limited to, the diversity of coalition members, education and activities centered on the community's traditional and cultural values, and communication that includes the community's traditional languages and the people of the community”. Each successful applicant will be expected

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to identify culturally responsive strategies through local needs assessments and include in their strategic plan and work towards threading a cultural lens throughout their implementation efforts.

- Grants were continued for FY2025.
- 2026-2028 Request for Proposals (RFP) forthcoming

Enhanced Services

- [FY2024 – FY2026 Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#): \$2.5M

The purpose of the Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime grant program is to provide funding to community, municipal or tribal organizations to serve victims of crime in Alaska. Funding is from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) federal formula funding and/or The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Discretionary Grant Funds, both received by CDVSA. Funds available through this RFP will focus on three (3) primary areas of service:

1. Legal Assistance Services for victims of crime to assert their rights as victims in a civil or criminal proceeding directly related to the victimization;
2. Mental health counseling for children and youth through 18 years of age who are direct victims of physical or sexual abuse and/or have witnessed violent crimes; and
3. Child Advocacy Center Services (CACs) for the purpose of enhancing existing service provision in Alaska.

Funding for this RFP enhances areas of service that has been minimally funded in the past. As applicants determine which service area they will apply for, the Council encourages partnerships and collaborative work that strengthens and supports the intersectionality of violent crimes and the need for trauma-informed services focused on legal assistance, mental health, and supportive forensic care for child victims of abuse.

Community Based Victim Support

- [FY 2019-2021 Community Based Victim Services Grant Program Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#): \$16M

The primary mission of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault's Community-based Victim Services grant program is to provide immediate safety and support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their dependent children, in life-threatening situations, and to strengthen local community responses to these crimes.

- Grants were continued for FY2022-FY2023.

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- [FY 2024-2026 Community Based Victim Services Grant Program Request for Proposals \(RFP\): \\$17-\\$18M](#)

The primary purpose of the Community Based Victim Services grant program is to provide critical and immediate emergency services, support, and referrals to individuals and families impacted by domestic and sexual violence, child abuse, and underserved victims of violent crimes and to strengthen local community responses to these crimes.

The intent of the Council is to fund community-based and community-driven programming, strategies, and interventions to provide safety, support, and services to meet the needs of individuals and families impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and underserved victims of violent crimes.

The Council is seeking to build a comprehensive, victim-centered, trauma-informed, and accessible system of direct services and support to the many diverse populations and geographic regions of Alaska impacted by these crimes.

Batterer Intervention Program (BIP)/Prison-Based Program (PBP)

- The statutory and regulatory authority of administering BIP/PBP lies with the Department of Corrections (DOC) in [AS 44.28.020 Duties of the department](#) and in [22 AAC 25 Programs for Rehabilitation of Perpetrators of Domestic Violence](#). Per statute and regulation, DOC should submit the applications for BIP/PBP programs to CDVSA for approval.
 - Current grants (awarded in 2013 are on continuation agreements until regulations are updated in collaboration with Department of Corrections, specifically [22 AAC 25 Programs for Rehabilitation of Perpetrators of Domestic Violence](#)).
 - BIP \$333,284 annually
 - PBP \$113,180 annually
- Provide fiscal and technical assistance to plan, organize, implement, and administer these programs.
 - i. [CDVSA Grantee Support](#)
 - Subgrantee Meeting 2024
 1. [Monitoring Presentation](#)
 2. [Prevention Presentation](#)
 3. [BIP/PBP Presentation](#)
 4. [Financial Presentation](#)
 5. [Data Presentation](#)

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5. Regulatory and Reporting Duties

- Adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of the chapter and protect the health, safety, well-being, and privacy of individuals receiving services.
 - i. Regulations revisions – coordination with Department of Corrections (DOC) to update Batterer Intervention Programs (BIP) regulations, which are in DOC statutory and regulatory authority ([AS 44.28.020](#) *Duties of the department* and [22 AAC 25](#) *Programs for Rehabilitation of Perpetrators of Domestic Violence*), reported in [2024 BIP/PBP Presentation](#)
- Make an annual report to the Governor detailing the Council’s activities, plans for new services and programs, and any legislative recommendations.
 - i. [2023 CDVSA Annual Report to the Legislature](#) per AS 18.66.050 (10)
 - ii. 2024 CDVSA Annual Report to the Legislature anticipated to be released January 31, 2024

6. Standards and Training

- Consult with the Department of Health to formulate standards and procedures for delivering services to victims by health care facilities and practitioners.
- Work with public employers, the Alaska supreme court, school districts, and prosecuting authorities to provide continuing education courses in domestic violence to employees.
 - i. [Training Opportunities](#)
 - Understanding Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault – ANDVSA Online Course (self-paced and available)
 - Primary Prevention Summit – [March 2025](#), January 2023
 - Alaska Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training – November 19-22, 2024
 - Alaska Comprehensive Forensic Training Academy (ACFTA) – May and August 2024
 - ii. [Alaska Safe Children’s Act](#)
 1. Erin’s Law, [AS 14.30.355](#) *Sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention*
 2. Bree’s Law, [AS 14.30.356](#) *Teen dating violence and abuse awareness and prevention program; training and notices*

Appendix A – Alaska Statute (AS) 18.66.050. Duties of the council.

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Appendix A – Alaska Statute (AS) 18.66.050. Duties of the council.

The council shall

- (1) hire an executive director, and the executive director may hire staff; the executive director is in the exempt service under [AS 39.25.110](#) and staff members are in the classified service under [AS 39.25.100](#);
- (2) elect one of its members as presiding officer;
- (3) in consultation with authorities in the field, develop, implement, maintain, and monitor domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs, including educational programs, films, and school curricula on the cause, prevention, and treatment of domestic violence and sexual assault;
- (4) coordinate services provided by the Department of Law, the Department of Education and Early Development, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Health, the Department of Corrections, and other state agencies and community groups dealing with domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention, and provide technical assistance as requested by those state agencies and community groups;
- (5) develop and implement a standardized data collection system on domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention;
- (6) 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;
- (7) 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;
- (8) oversee and audit domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs that receive money under this chapter;
- (9) provide fiscal and technical assistance to plan, organize, implement, and administer domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs;
- (10) make an annual report to the governor on the activities of the council, plans of the council for new services and programs, and concerns of the council, including recommendations for legislation necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter; the council shall notify the legislature that the report is available;

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- (11) adopt regulations in accordance with [AS 44.62](#) (Administrative Procedure Act) to carry out the purposes of this chapter and to protect the health, safety, well-being, and privacy of persons receiving services financed with grants or contracts under this chapter;
- (12) consult with the Department of Health in the formulation of standards and procedures for the delivery of services to victims of domestic violence by health care facilities and practitioners of healing arts and personnel in those facilities as required in [AS 18.66.300](#);
- (13) consult with the Alaska Police Standards Council and other police training programs in the state to develop training programs regarding domestic violence for police officers and for correction, probation, and parole officers;
- (14) consult with public employers, the Alaska Supreme Court, school districts, and prosecuting authorities who are required by [AS 18.66.300](#) — 18.66.310 to provide continuing education courses in domestic violence to employees.