



Alaska's Council on  
Domestic Violence  
& Sexual Assault

## CDVSA Executive Director's Update

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June 18th-September 10th, 2026

FY2027 Quarter 1

### An update of CDVSA activities/highlights

#### **Staffing and personnel**

CDVSA is currently in the recruitment process of hiring for our Program Coordinator 1-2 flex position. This position, previously held by Jen LaRoe, became vacant after Jen took on the role of Lead Victim Services Program Coordinator (previously held by Morgan Stonecipher, who assumed the Criminal Justice planner position). Jen will be assisting the PC 1-2 position in learning their role within CDVSA, training, and guiding projects.

We are pleased to welcome our newest public Board Member, Ruth Thorum! Ruth comes to us from Fairbanks and will introduce herself at this Q1 Board Meeting. The CDVSA Board currently has two vacant public member seats.

#### **Federal Audits**

CDVSA continues to work with the Office of Inspector General (OIG) regarding our audit that began in August 2024. On July 8, 2026, the OIG informed CDVSA that they need further information on two remaining recommendations they feel are still outstanding. CDVSA responded to the two remaining recommendations on July 13th, though we have yet to hear back on whether they have accepted these items for resolution.

CDVSA has not received the outcome of our Family Violence and Prevention Services Act (FVPSA) audit that occurred in December 2024. Once we do, we will respond to any findings and submit any necessary changes or updates to the Department of Health and Social Services.

#### **CDVSA Subcommittees**

- Governance
- Funding Methodology
- Community Outreach



The Governance subcommittee is no longer operational due to turnover in Board members that served on this subcommittee.

The Funding Methodology subcommittee met at the end of July and reviewed feedback gathered through the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) regarding categorization of services currently being provided by subgrantees. Service provision was narrowed down to six major categories of spending:

1. Immediate safety
2. Additional services connected to DVSA (such as legal attorney's, childcare)
3. Community outreach and engagement
4. Primary prevention
5. Behavioral health services
6. Administrative costs

Per the request of the committee, CDVSA has contacted its' 26 victim service member programs to inquire how much of their budgets are allocated towards each service type to provide the committee with a snapshot of what the Council funds and the costs of service provision per service type.

The next meeting of the funding subcommittee is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup>. CDVSA is looking to obtain solid guidance from the committee on how they would like this information to be used to determine a transparent method of funding allocations for programs.

The Community Outreach subcommittee is not active due to the decision to have individual Board members visit programs while they are already in communities on state business, and for public members to visit programs within their own communities. CDVSA is hoping to gather and provide the Board with regular updates on community events hosted by our providers so that Council members can attend to show support for our service providers and the CDVSA mission.

As part of our monitoring processes, CDVSA staff will be in the below communities in Quarter 2. Please inquire if you have plans to be in those communities and would like an introduction to our providers!

|           |                   |                          |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| October:  | Unalaska/Kotzebue | Victim Service providers |
| November: | Juneau/Ketchikan  | BIP providers            |
| December: | Fairbanks         | BIP providers            |



## 2026 Legislative Session

Several successful outcomes came from legislative decisions this 2026 session and were signed into law by Governor Mike Dunleavy. Deputy Attorney General Angela Kemp will be giving us a brief overview of HB 239 at the Q1 meeting; links to each individual bill component are also provided below.

### Significant impacts on CDVSA:

- \$1,200,000 in state general funds allocated to Victim Services programs.
- \$500,000 in state general funds allocated for civil legal services to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- HB 239: Omnibus Crime Bill; containing the following bills:
  - [SB 31](#) ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM
  - [HB 101](#) CRIMES AGAINST MINORS; AGE CONSENT TO 18
  - [HB 239](#) CRIM. NEG. HOMICIDE; FAILURE TO ASSIST
  - [SB 247](#) GENERATED OBSCENE CHLD SEX ABUSE MATERIAL
  - [HB 62](#) SEXUAL ASSAULT EXAMINATION KITS/TRACKING
  - [HB 242](#) SEXUAL ASSAULT BY HEALTH CARE WORKER
  - [SB 100](#) THEFT: ORGANIZED; MED. RECORDS; MAIL
  - [SB 233](#) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
  - [HB 81](#) ACCESS TO MARIJUANA CONVICTION RECORDS
  - [HB 384](#) DEFINITION OF 'VICTIM COUNSELING CENTER'
  - [SB 17](#) CRIME COUNTERFEIT/NONFUNCTIONING AIRBAG

FY27 Funding Update?

## CDVSA Programs

### ▪ **Victim Services**

CDVSA had a strong and busy start to FY27, utilizing an all-hands-on-deck approach to ensuring continuation applications and accompanying paperwork were processed according to our established timeline. Despite not being fully staffed, the work got done, and all advanced funds were issued on or ahead of schedule. Thank you to all staff who came together to ensure the programs received payments on time.



As noted above, CDVSA received \$500,000 in general funds to our “base” budget to allocate toward civil legal services. These funds will be specifically targeted to provide legal representation in court, a service that is costly and greatly needed. To expedite the release of funds, CDVSA is seeking a sole-source contract to the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) for one year to serve as a pass-through for two legal programs that previously received Enhanced Services funding that terminated in FY26. CDVSA plans to incorporate these funds into the FY28-FY30 Request for Proposal applications for a competitive process for the next Victim Services funding cycle.

- **Prevention**

The Statewide Prevention Planning Committee will be meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the implementation of the 2026-2030 statewide Prevention Plan. This group will identify gaps and leverage existing resources going forward to actively work on goals established within the plan.

This year, the biennial Prevention Summit will be held September 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> in Anchorage, Alaska! This year’s summit will be focused on building strong foundations, addressing basic prevention theory, organizational capacity, and community capacity for prevention programming. If you are in Anchorage and would like to swing by, it is at the B.P. Center—we would love to see you!

- **Perpetrator Rehabilitation (“BIP Programs”)**

The Department of Corrections (DOC) continues to work with CDVSA on the transition of Perpetrator Rehabilitation programs, which are now housed under their umbrella. While CDVSA continues to hold grant administration oversight and fund existing state-approved BIP programs, responsibility for programming approval, compliance monitoring, and funding for all perpetrator rehabilitation programs will fully shift to the DOC starting FY28.

\*At the Q1 meeting, the Board will be voting to delegate authority to CDVSA staff to serve on the application approver committee along with DOC and other subject matter experts. This is to clarify that the seat will be held by a CDVSA staff member and not a member of the Council Board.

## **Plans and Reports**

- **STOP Implementation Plan**



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The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP Implementation 4-Year Plan was submitted in July 2026 after public comment and Board feedback was incorporated. A final copy of the plan is included in your Board packet for review.

▪ **Division of Victim Assistance and Forensic Sciences (DVAFS) Transition Report**

With the turnover in State of Alaska administration, each Department was asked to create a transition report for the incoming Governor and staff. A copy of the Department of Public Safety DVAFS report has been included in your packet for a comprehensive summary of each component under the new division.