

# Strategic Plan 2024-27



Brad Little, Governor  
Dana Wiemiller, Executive Director

**Idaho Council** ON  
**Domestic Violence**  
AND **Victim Assistance**

March 22, 2024

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# **STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-27**

**March 24, 2024**

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**Brad Little, Governor**

**Dana Wiemiller, Executive Director**

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## Overview

### Our Mission

To ensure that all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and other violent crimes in Idaho have access to quality trauma-informed and victim-centered services.

### Our Vision

Victim services should be accessible and sustainable throughout the State while promoting, advocating for, and encouraging resiliency and empowerment of victims.

### Our Purpose

Pursuant to [Idaho Code \(I.C.\) § 39-5201](#), the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence & Victim Assistance shall be the advisory body to fund, promote and support programs and services affecting victims of domestic violence and other crimes in Idaho.

***Necessary services include shelter, needs assessments and appropriate referrals, counseling, forensic and medical exams for sexual assault, and victim advocacy in the judicial system.***

## Agency Structure & Governance

The Idaho Council on Domestic Violence & Victim Assistance (ICDVVA) was created by the Legislature in 1982 to address the disruptive influence of domestic violence on society, provide protection and refuge for victims, and provide funding for victim service programs throughout the state. [I.C. § 39-5201](#). For budgetary and administrative support purposes, the Council is assigned by the governor to a department or office within the state per I.C. § 39-5203(2). Currently ICDVVA is assigned to the Department of Health and Welfare for those purposes but is otherwise an independent agency. The Council is composed of seven members, one from each of the seven public health district regions in Idaho as defined in [I.C. § 39-408](#). Council members shall be representative of persons who have been victims of domestic violence, care providers, law enforcement officials, medical and mental health professionals, counselors, and interested and concerned members of the public. [I.C. § 39-5204](#).

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Members serve 3-year terms per [I.C. § 39-5205](#) and receive an honorarium of \$35 per day (plus travel expenses) per [I.C. § 39-5206](#). The Council is governed by the Council Governance and Administrative Policies, which are published on the Council website.

Current Council Members are as follows:

<b>Region</b>	<b>Council Member</b>	<b>Profession/Representing</b>	<b>Appointment Expires</b>
1	Wes Somerton (Chair)	City Attorney	7-1-2026
2	Jessica Uhrig (Vice-Chair)	Prosecutor	7-1-2024
3	Laura Diaz	Survivor & Legal Assistant	7-1-2024
4	Jennifer Beazer	Metabolic Dietician	7-1-2026
5	Rachel Kaschmitter	Social Worker (LCSW)	7-1-2025
6	Jona Jacobson	Lecturer/DV Evaluator	7-1-2026
7	Clint Lemieux	Teton Co. Sheriff	7-1-2024

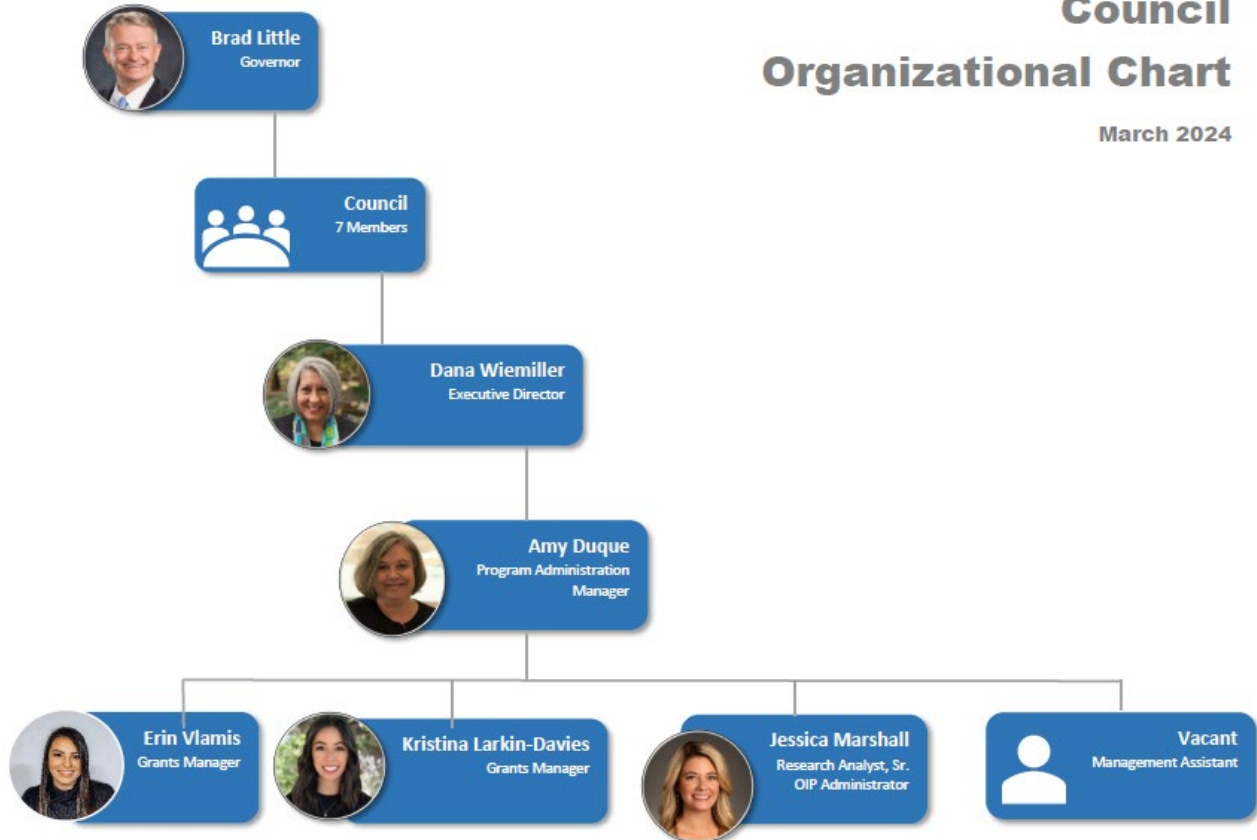
The Council has adopted [Council Governance and Administrative Policies](#), available on the agency website. These policies cover meeting rules, conflicts of interest, records retention, etcetera.

The Council employs staff, including an Executive Director, and fixes compensation for the same per [I.C. § 39-5207](#). ICDVVA has 6 full-time employees (FTE). The Executive Director is exempt and non-classified per [I.C. § 39-5207\(3\)](#); all other staff are classified employees. Staff are paid primarily with federal funds except the Executive Director; however, offender intervention related work is not billable to federal grants and must be paid with General Funds or with Dedicated Funds, as those are the only sources of non-federal dollars. Staff time spent administering state domestic violence awards must also be paid with General Funds or Dedicated Funds.

# Council Organizational Chart

## Council Organizational Chart

March 2024



The Council meets quarterly and holds special meetings as needed, including one strategic planning meeting annually. A standing Subcommittee for Domestic Violence Offender Intervention Programs (OIP) Oversight also meets quarterly. Regional Roundtables are held annually for each region to touch base with programs about regional gaps and needs.

## Core Functions, Duties, & Responsibilities

Legislative policy in creating the Council is set forth in [I.C. § 39-5201](#). ICDVVA assists victims of intimate partner violence but also other violent crimes, including for example, child abuse and neglect, rape and sexual assault, human trafficking, victims of assaults and batteries, and victims of drunk drivers.

[I.C. § 39-5208](#), Responsibilities & Duties, provides the Council shall:

- (1) Establish standards for projects applying for grants from the council under this chapter;
- (2) Disseminate information on availability of funds and the application process;

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- (3) Receive grant applications for the development and establishment of projects for victims of domestic violence and certain other crimes;
  - (4) Distribute funds after approval of projects meeting council standards;
  - (5) Assess, review, and monitor the services and programs being provided for victims of domestic violence and other crimes under this chapter;
  - (6) Monitor programs and services for victims of domestic violence and other crimes to assure nonduplication of services and to encourage efficient and coordinated use of resources in the provision of services;
  - (7) Compile data on the services and programs provided to victims of domestic violence and other crimes and the geographic incidence of domestic violence and other crimes in this state; and
  - (8) Submit annual reports to the governor and the legislature.

[I.C. § 18-918\(7\)\(d\)](#) requires that “Counseling or treatment ordered pursuant to this section [domestic violence crimes] shall be conducted according to standards established or approved by the Idaho council on domestic violence and victim assistance.” The Council is also responsible for establishing minimum standards for offender intervention treatment programs and determining which providers are approved to offer such programs.

## Administrative Rules & Rulemaking

[I.C. § 39-5209](#) provides the legal authority for the Council to make rules. “The council shall promulgate, adopt and amend rules and criteria to implement the provisions of this chapter regarding applications and grants for domestic violence project funding and for funding under any other grant program administered by the council.” The rulemaking must comply with the procedures in the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act, [Chapter 52, Title 67](#).

Administrative Rules, specifically [IDAPA 16.05.04](#), define the application process, eligibility determination, and other requirements for the grants administered by the ICDVVA per [I.C. § 39-5209](#). The rules regarding how grant funds are distributed throughout the state had not been substantially revised since their adoption in 1990 and revision was necessary to ensure limited grant funds can be spent where most needed. After a negotiated rulemaking process, new rules were approved by the Idaho Legislature in 2023.

Although the Council is responsible for establishing minimum standards for offender intervention treatment programs per [I.C. § 18-918\(7\)\(d\)](#), the Council currently has no rulemaking authority for that purpose. The [Minimum Standards](#) are recommended by the Offender Intervention Oversight Subcommittee and adopted by the Council consistent with the [Council Governance and Administrative Policies](#).

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## Historical Revenue & Expenditures

### Revenue

The vast majority (94.61% for FY24) of Council funding is from federal grants. The bulk of funds available for victim services in Idaho comes from the Department of Justice Victims of Crime Act Assistance Grant (VOCA). The VOCA Crime Victims Fund is a non-taxpayer funded source; funds come from monetary penalties associated with federal criminal convictions or plea agreements. The VOCA grant amounts vary and declined sharply between 2018 and 2021. The VOCA Fix Act<sup>1</sup> became law July 22, 2021, resulting in plea agreements instead of *only* convictions paying into the Crime Victims Fund, which provides VOCA formula grants to states. This resulted in an increased VOCA Award in 2022; however, the 2023 VOCA Award remained relatively the same and the Department of Justice has indicated that 2024 VOCA Awards are expected to decrease by 41%. Historical amounts of VOCA Grant Awards to ICDVVA are as follows:

2023 VOCA Award (10/1/2022 – 9/30/26)	\$ 8,115,658
2022 VOCA Award (10/1/2021 – 9/30/25)	\$ 8,474,994
2021 VOCA Award (10/1/2020 – 9/30/24)	\$ 6,062,308
2020 VOCA Award (10/1/2019 – 9/30/23)	\$ 9,337,836
2019 VOCA Award (10/1/2018 – 9/30/22)	\$12,304,131
2018 VOCA Award (10/1/2017 – 9/30/21)	\$17,703,118
2017 VOCA Award (10/1/2016 – 9/30/20)	\$ 9,867,400
2016 VOCA Award (10/1/2015 – 9/30/19)	\$11,652,588
2015 VOCA Award (10/1/2014 – 9/30/18)	\$10,281,844

ICDVVA also receives funds from Health and Human Services Family Violence and Presentation Services Act (FVPSA). FVPSA funds to States are a baseline of \$600,000 annually plus an adjustment for population. Since Idaho’s population is growing, our FVPSA grant will likely continue to increase.

2023 FVPSA (10/1/2022 – 9/30/24)	\$1,199,732
2022 FVPSA (10/1/2021 – 9/30/23)	\$1,092,516
2021 FVPSA (10/1/2020 – 9/30/22)	\$1,048,140
2020 FVPSA (10/1/2019 – 9/30/21)	\$1,020,523
2019 FVPSA (10/1/2018 – 9/30/20)	\$ 983,800

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<sup>1</sup> The VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021, Public Law 117-27, 117<sup>th</sup> Congress; amending 34 U.S.C. § 20101 – Crime Victims Fund



In 2020 and 2021, FVPSA also made available some one-time supplemental formula funds available states to address Covid related costs. The use of these funds is limited in scope and requires a Covid tie.

2021 FVPSA ARPA (Sexual Assault) (10/1/2020 – 9/30/25)	\$1,281,583
2021 FVPSA ARPA (Covid Testing) (10/1/2020 – 9/30/25)	\$2,215,625

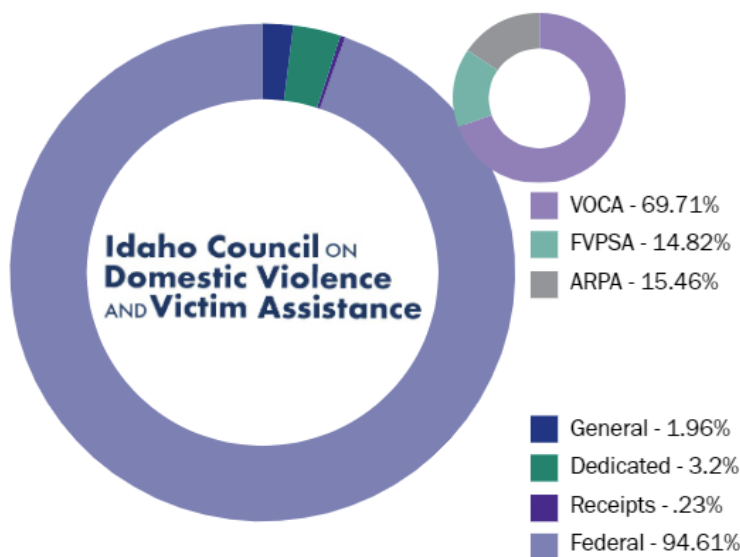
As of the date of this strategic plan, the Sexual Assault funding has been fully subawarded. It is anticipated that approximately \$308,780 in remaining Covid Testing funds will be subawarded to programs in FY25 awards.

ICDVVA receives dedicated funds for grants for domestic violence projects and to meet the costs of maintaining the operation of the Council, per [I.C. § 39-5212](#), from three sources:

- a. \$15 per marriage license issued per [I.C. § 39-5213\(1\)](#)
- b. \$20 per divorce filing per [I.C. § 39-5213\(2\)](#)
- c. \$10 per violation of protection order fines per [I.C. § 39-6312\(1\)](#)

ICDVVA historically hosts an annual multi-disciplinary educational conference for professionals such as social workers, prosecutors and other attorneys, offender intervention providers, law enforcement officers, and victim service providers. The conference is the only source of Council income which applies towards the ICDVVA receipt authority set by the Legislature at \$40,000 annually.

### State Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Sources



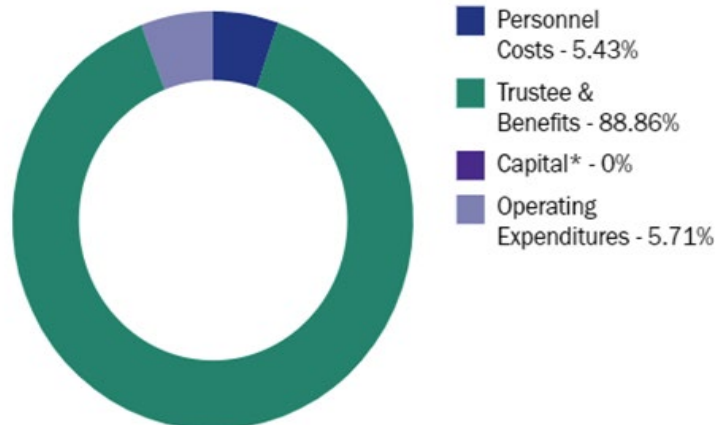
In order to sustain victim service programs statewide, \$12 million annually is a critical minimum funding level. Below that critical level, it is highly likely that some programs would have insufficient funding to continue operations. Recognizing this, the Governor recommended, and the legislature approved, \$6 million in one-time DV Bridge funds from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund (from the American Rescue Plan Act) for FY23 and another \$2.5 million in one-time DV Bridge funds for FY24 to help sustain programs until the Crime Victims Fund balance increases. The availability of these one-time funds, combined with one-year extensions on VOCA funding, has allowed the Council to defer the use of VOCA funding and to “braid” annual VOCA awards to achieve a more sustainable level of funding. Despite these efforts, the Council is still facing a significant decline as noted in the chart below.

Fund	Expires	Avail. For Award	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
VOCA20	9/30/2024	\$ 8,870,944	\$ 5,527,701			
VOCA21	9/30/2025	\$ 5,759,193	\$ 1,096,388	\$ 4,662,805		
VOCA22	9/30/2025	\$ 8,051,244		\$ 4,000,000	\$ 3,051,244	\$ 1,000,000
VOCA23	9/30/2026	\$ 7,709,875			\$ 5,500,000	\$ 2,209,875
VOCA24	9/30/2027	\$ 4,548,826				\$ 4,548,826
FVPSA	Annual	\$ 1,139,745	\$ 1,139,745	\$ 1,139,745	\$ 1,139,745	\$ 1,139,745
FVPSA-SA	9/30/2025	\$ 1,217,504	\$ 325,923			
FVPSA TVMH	9/30/2025	\$ 2,104,844	\$ 562,166	\$ 308,780		
STATE BRIDGE	6/30/2024		\$ 2,500,000			
State DV		\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 11,401,923</b>	<b>\$ 10,111,330</b>	<b>\$ 9,690,989</b>	<b>\$ 8,898,446</b>

### Expenditures

The Council’s FY24 total appropriation is \$17,090,400. Nearly 89% of the Council’s budget expenditures are to fund programs around the state providing victim services.

### State Fiscal Year 2024 Expenditures



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## Federal Technology Grant

The Council was awarded \$500,000 in September 2022 from the Office for Victims of Crime to acquire technology for administration of the VOCA Assistance awards. Working in conjunction with the Idaho State Controller's Office to complete a competitive procurement, a contract was awarded to Amplifund for a comprehensive grants management system to administer the application, reimbursement, budget management, and data collection functions of ICDVVA grant awards. A phased implementation of the system was launched October 1, 2023, with the start of the FFY24 grant period. Currently, grant reimbursement submissions and data collection functions are active in the system and work is currently in progress to allow the FY25 grant solicitation to be administered through Amplifund. Full integration with the state's financial system is still in progress.

## **Key Services Provided FY22-FY23**

### **Funding Direct Victim Service Providers**

Sustaining victim programs through the decline in VOCA funding continues to be a key priority for the Council. All states have struggled to navigate this funding decline, with many losing victim service programs. Idaho programs have made a remarkable effort to pull together and reduce the total amount of their grant requests, recognizing the need to ensure the survival of all programs. Programs are also aware of the need to diversify their funding sources and are becoming less dependent on Council funding. In FY21 and FY22, 22 funded programs relied on ICDVVA funding for over 50% of their annual budget according to their grant applications. In FY23, 14 programs relied on ICDVVA funding for over 50% of their annual budget and the number dropped to 10 programs in FY24. The Council application scoring rubric incentivizes decreased reliance on ICDVVA funding, but it is understood that funding sources and fundraising opportunities are not consistent in all areas of the state.

Currently ICDVAA funds 42 programs, which are public and nonprofit organizations (and one tribal program) that provide essential emergency shelter, legal services, counseling, basic needs and supplies, and other critical services to Idahoans who have experienced severe trauma.

The agency website includes a list of current grantees and amounts awarded in the [Grantees](#) section. [Historical funding](#) of programs and amounts by year are available on the ICDVVA website. The number of programs funded by fiscal year relates both to available funding and the number of eligible applicants. In FY22, the Council funded 49 programs, 45 were funded in FY23, and there are 42 funded programs funded in FY24.

Each year, the Council announces the availability of grant funds and advertises and promotes the funding opportunity to eligible applicants (nonprofit, tribal and government agencies providing victim

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services, and tribes). Applications are reviewed and scored, and eligibility verified (eligibility [criteria for VOCA](#) are established by the DOJ<sup>2</sup>; eligibility [criteria for FVPSA](#) are established by HHS<sup>3</sup>, and eligibility for State Project Grants is determined by [I.C. § 39-5210](#)<sup>4</sup>. Grant funds are distributed throughout the state according to the funding formulas specified in [IDAPA § 16.05.04](#), which for the past forty years has meant taking into account population, square miles per region, and marriage licenses issued, but not need and demand for services. FY24 awards will follow the revised administrative rules and take need and demand into account in distribution.

The Council determines the awards to eligible applicants. For FY24 awards, a scoring rubric was published with the application which incentivized programs to decrease their reliance on ICDVVA funding, to be conservative in funding requests and use at least 60% of requested funds for direct victim services, and to identify how the program to be funded would advance the Council's strategic plan. Applicants were provided with both their application score and where the application score ranked among all applications.

State Dedicated funds for DV projects are distributed per [I.C. § 39-5212](#) with eligible projects given priority based upon an allocation of funds in the proportion that marriage licenses are filed in each region. The result of this allocation is that funds are not able to be distributed where they are most needed, but rather must be distributed based on where licenses are issued. This limits the Council's ability to direct limited funding to where it is most needed to serve victims.

## Statewide Planning, Data Collection and Needs Assessment

To assess victim needs, identify gaps in service and demand for services, identify underserved populations, and identify barriers victim service providers face, the Council engages in data collection, research, stakeholder engagement sessions, and collaborations with others serving overlapping or intersecting populations.

Major issues that hinder victim assistance include lack of emergency shelter, lack of affordable housing (which causes survivors to stay in shelter/alternative housing for longer periods and some to stay in abusive situations rather than become homeless when housing is unavailable), lack of mental health providers, lack of cultural and language accessible services (i.e. bi-cultural, bi-lingual advocates and

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<sup>2</sup> 42 U.S.C. 10601 governs the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) VOCA grant awards and [Part 200](#) – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards governs VOCA.

<sup>3</sup> 42 U.S.C. 10404(a)(4), [45 CFR Part 1370 final rule](#) covers administration of FVPSA awards, and [5 U.S.C. 301; 2 CFR part 200, Part 75](#): Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards governs FVPSA awards.

<sup>4</sup> Projects must provide a safe house or refuge and a crisis line, and other services provided may include (but are not limited to) counseling, educational services for community awareness, presentation, treatment and rehabilitation, support groups, and assistance in obtaining medical, legal, psychological, or vocational services.

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counselors), access (i.e. public transportation) to victim services agencies, lack of economic opportunities, and continued stigma regarding the reporting crime victimization. Programs report that access to affordable, subsidized, or temporary housing is limited. This prevents victims from finding safety, or the ability to break the cycle of violence by permanently leaving their situation. Programs, especially in the most rural areas of the state, struggle to find qualified mental health providers; this leaves victims without the assistance needed to heal from trauma. More individuals trained in social work and psychology need to be recruited to come to Idaho or need to be trained here. In some of the most rural communities, lack of public transportation or a vehicle make it difficult to drive to a program, or keep medical, legal, or advocacy appointments, and for many, lack of available childcare causes the same problem. Finally, there is stigma associated with victimization, especially in rural communities where everyone knows everyone and for victims who are from historically marginalized communities (i.e. black, indigenous, Latinx, people of color, LGBTQ, people with disabilities, immigrants and refugees), and sometimes victims do not feel safe reporting crimes to law enforcement, because they do not believe the justice system will treat them fairly.

With the pandemic, many service providers have introduced virtual assistance programs, which has assisted in making victim services more accessible in rural areas than it has been in the past. Many funded programs outreach extensively in their communities, partnering with law enforcement, healthcare, and other nonprofit agencies to ensure victims are referred to their program if others encounter a victim first. Law enforcement has some police chiefs who are heavily invested in sexual assault kit initiatives which has resulted in our state being a leader in tracking sexual assault kits. The state does not require a victim report sexual assault if they are tested, but all kits are tested, unless a victim chooses to remain anonymous.

## Research

Working with the Council, Boise State University conducted a statewide needs assessment, *Crime Victims in Idaho: An Assessment of Needs and Services*, released 2014. The study provided an overall picture of the state of victim services at that time and contained numerous recommendations. To update this needed assessment and to fulfill its statutory duty to compile data on the services and programs provided to victims of domestic violence and other crimes and the geographic incidence of domestic violence and other crimes in this state, the Council contracted in 2019 with Boise State University to provide a series of reports on victim needs in Idaho on a biennial basis, with the final report in the series anticipated in June of 2023. The reports focused on surveying victim service providers/agencies, surveying victims, examining the impacts of sexual assault legislation, and considering two emerging issues. Volume One of the [Biennial Report](#) on Victimization & Victim Services in Idaho contains four volumes:

**Issue 1:** Emerging Issues in Victimization: The Impact of the *Clarke* Decision on Policing's Response to Victimization

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**Issue 2:** Idaho Crime Victim Service Provider Survey Results 2020

**Issue 3:** Idaho's Sexual Assault Kit Initiative: The Effect of HB528 on Sexual Assault Clearance Rates

**Issue 4:** Idaho Crime Victim Survey

Additionally, in September of 2021, Boise State University completed [HCR33 Report: Idaho's Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons \(MMIP\)](#) which was funded with a one-time legislative appropriation through the Council to examine available data on the MMIP issue in Idaho.

Volume Two of the [Biennial Report](#) on Victimization & Victim Services in Idaho contains four volumes:

**Issue 1:** Idaho Crime Victim Service Provider Survey: Year Two

**Issue 2:** Idaho Crime Victim Survey: Year Two

Issue 3: Idaho's Sexual Assault Kit Initiative: The Effects of Legislation on sexual assault Case Processing

Issue 4: Emerging Issues in victimization: Domestic Violence and Housing in Idaho

In June 2019 the Idaho Supreme Court issued [State v Clarke](#), 165 Idaho 393, 446 P.3d 451 (2019) which made it unlawful for police to make an arrest in misdemeanor crimes that happen outside their presence without a warrant. In [Emerging Issues in Victimization: The Impact of the Clarke Decision on Policing's Response to Victimization](#), the Boise State Research Team looked at the impact this decision has had on domestic violence policies and found mostly negative impacts; recommendations were provided by the study. The police response to the decision varies widely throughout the State, largely resource dependent. In rural areas with a limited number of law enforcement officers, the additional time at the scene to obtain a warrant can be highly problematic, as can the availability of a judge to obtain a warrant. There is substantial concern about the inability of officers at the scene of misdemeanor domestic violence calls to remove perpetrators of violence from the scene given these new barriers to arrest. When perpetrators cannot be removed, victims may need to be removed, causing an increased demand for emergency shelter.

The Council recognizes the effects of *Clarke* decision are significant and is committed to working on potential solutions and educating policymakers about the issue. The Council requested the Statistical Analysis Center look at the available data on domestic violence arrests pre and post *Clarke* and the SAC issued a [research brief](#) in November of 2022 which shows that law enforcement response to DV incidents has changed post-*Clarke*. Domestic Violence incidents classified as aggravated assaults increased and simple assaults decreased, while domestic violence citations (where there is no arrest) increased. The Council's Research Analyst also reviewed data from the Judicial Branch and found that across the state, misdemeanor domestic violence charges decreased and felony domestic violence charges slightly increased after *Clarke*.

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The BSU victim survey concluded in September, 2022. To ensure that victim feedback remains available, to remove the burden of collecting it from subrecipients, and to have access to victim feedback in real-time, the Council developed a short anonymous survey for programs to share with victims. The survey launched in October of 2022 and is voluntary. The Council provided victim survey cards in English, Spanish and Arabic with a QR code for the survey, and also provided programs with tablets that can administer the survey in a variety of other languages as needed.

The Council hired its first Research Analyst, Sr. in May of 2021. The Council collects required performance data from funded programs and completes required federal performance reports for both VOCA and FVPSA funded programs. The research analyst meets with all funded programs to ensure accuracy of data and improve data collection methods, as well as identify data gaps.

In 2021, the Council identified need and demand for services as a data gap. Although programs report on the services they provide, there was not data being collected on services for which programs had demand but did not have the means or capacity to address. To address this data gap, the Council began gathering data on housing and counseling demands in FY22. Data from July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022 indicates the average waitlist for adults to obtain counseling was 26 days and the average waitlist for children was 28 days. For the same period, 1,082 individuals were waitlisted for emergency shelter while 2, 445 were provided shelter. That equates to 44% of victims needing emergency shelter and unable to be housed, or 1 in every 2.25 victims.

Another identified data gap was that there was no data being collected from offender intervention programs. The Council began gathering data from Offender Intervention Programs in January of 2022 so that the number of individuals obtaining treatment and other basic data will be available moving forward. It is a goal to eventually house this data in a database searchable by DV Evaluators to determine whether offenders have been previously required to attend intervention programs and whether or not they successfully completed those programs.

The Council has acted on a number of recommendations in the BSU reports and continues to do so.

### Stakeholder Engagement Sessions, Collaborations & Feedback

The Council has made a significant effort to collaborate and engage with stakeholders to work together to share information and data, best practices, training opportunities, and make connections among those serving populations which intersect or overlap the population of crime victims. In 2023, the Council has decided to prioritize a few key collaborations, working very closely with the following:

- Council for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
- Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Victim's Compensation

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- Idaho State Police Planning, Grants & Research (including the Statistical Analysis Center)
  - Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

Both of the primary federal grants administered by the Council require the state to identify underserved populations, which may include victim demographic characteristics, type of crime experienced by the victim, and populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services. The Council consulted VOCA guidance for underserved definition requirements ([42 U.S.C. 10603\(a\)\(2\)\(B\)](#)), FVPSA guidance for underserved definition requirements ([FVPSA 45 CFR § 1370](#)) and compared various definitions used by other states as well as other Idaho agencies. Taking into account best available data from all of the above research, collaboration and engagement, the Council currently defines underserved as follows:

Underserved populations are those who face additional barriers and challenges accessing victim services.

Such barriers and challenges can include race, ethnicity (including indigenous peoples), religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, special needs (including language barriers or physical, developmental, and/or intellectual disabilities), blindness/low vision, deafness/difficulty hearing, national origin, immigration status, senior age, and living in a rural area as defined by Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)([CMS- Am I Rural](#)).

FVPSA requires a state plan to provide for the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of programs and projects to prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence; to provide immediate shelter, supportive services, and access to community-based programs for victims of family, domestic, and dating violence, and their dependents; and to provide specialized services for children exposed to family, domestic, or dating violence, including victims who are members of underserved populations ([45 CFR § 1370.10](#)). Portions of this strategic plan, updated annually, are included in the State's annual mandatory FVPSA application and, taken together, these serve as Idaho's FVPSA required state plan.

## Offender Intervention Oversight

The Council currently oversees 26 approved Offender Intervention programs. The Offender Intervention Program (OIP) Committee engaged in a year long process to revise the minimum standards for approved programs, which included a literature review, focus groups, and comparison to the standards of other states. [Revised standards](#) took effect January 1, 2022, and data collection from programs commenced at the same time. There are staff capacity constraints that have prevented a regular schedule of offender intervention program monitoring to occur.



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## Monitoring Victim Service Programs

Council staff must monitor all funded programs to comply with federal grant requirements. This requires review of applicable policies and procedures, facilities, management, governance and leadership, financial reports and audits, data collection and reporting systems, personnel and timekeeping records, and a myriad of other items designed to ensure program compliance with grant requirements. Monitoring frequency is determined in part by risk assessments, but programs are to be monitored at least once within a two- year cycle.

## Training

The Council endeavors to provide quality and free or affordable training opportunities to victim service providers and those in related fields throughout the State, as well as serve as an information source for training opportunities in the fields of victim services and offender intervention. ICDVVA sponsors an annual Safety & Resilience conference, a multi-disciplinary conference attended by victim service providers, law enforcement, court personnel, attorneys, social workers, and other related fields. The Council also provides training as part of its annual Regional Roundtables. . In addition, the Council website (Resources, Training Opportunities) is regularly updated to feature relevant training opportunities, many of which are offered at no cost (such as through the Office of Victims of Crime). Council staff put on webinars each year to assist funding recipients with the application process, the monitoring process, financial reporting, data collection and reporting, and to address requested topics The Council has partnered with the Idaho State Police to develop recorded trainings for law enforcement that are approved for POST credit

## Agency Goals, Objectives & Performance Measures

The Council has determined its four main goals for the future as follows:

Goal 1: Prioritize the availability of direct services to assist victims of crime throughout Idaho and the efficient use of funding to maximize those services

Goal 2: Develop and share reliable data on crime and victimization which can serve as a basis for decision making

Goal 3: Serve as a key resource on issues and policies impacting victims of crime

Goal 4: Collaborate with other stakeholders to enhance the accessibility of resources to underserved populations and promote a sustainable safety net of critical victim services throughout Idaho

The following charts set forth objectives, tasks/action items, and targets related to each goal.

**Goal 1: Prioritize the availability of direct services to assist victims of crime throughout Idaho and the efficient use of funding to maximize those services**

Goal 1: Objectives	Tasks	Targets
<p><b>1.1:</b> Fund eligible projects based on clearly identified criteria, taking into account best available data on the need and demand for services and the barriers to accessing such services</p>	<p><b>1.1.1:</b> Identify metrics to be considered in grant application evaluation and award decisions (e.g., the evaluation of subrecipient operating efficiency, fundraising efforts, sustainability/succession planning, grant performance, inter-agency collaboration, monitoring/audit findings, cost per victim served, underserved populations reached). Annually update a transparent rubric for applying these metrics, and share it with all stakeholders</p> <p><b>1.1.2:</b> The evaluation criteria and scoring rubric will be published along with annual grant applications; each application will be scored accordingly, and each applicant will be provided their scores along with the resulting funding decision</p> <p><b>1.1.3:</b> Services to crime victims should be victim-centered, trauma-informed, and reflect best practices in the field. Retaining trained program staff and engaging in succession planning for key staff are valuable to ensure continuity of services.</p> <p><b>1.1.4:</b> Direct services to victims should be the primary focus of subaward budgets</p>	<p><b>Target 1:</b> Each grant subaward will include a minimum budget of 65% for direct victim services</p>
<p><b>1.2:</b> Efficient Use of Resources</p>	<p><b>1.2.1:</b> Maximize services to crime victims by using the bare minimum needed to sustain Council staff and operations and directing additional dollars to funded programs whenever possible</p> <p><b>1.2.2:</b> Encourage funded programs to work together to ensure key victim services remain available in each region (e.g., job sharing across programs, staff retention, collaboration)</p>	<p><b>Target 2:</b> Use all federal grant funds awarded, with \$0 reverted at end of grant period</p>
<p><b>1.3:</b> Pursue additional funding sources for victim services to address identified gaps</p>	<p><b>1.3.1:</b> Seek out and pursue additional funding options and opportunities for funding victim services to ensure services are available statewide</p> <p><b>1.3.2:</b> Maximize the amount of state dedicated funds spent on programs vs. Council operations</p> <p><b>1.3.3:</b> Utilize the Council’s OVC Technology Grant to fully implement grant management software</p>	<p><b>Target 3:</b> Implement grant management software to administer FY24 awards and FY25 applications &amp; awards, streamlining operations for both Council and subrecipient staff</p>

**Goal 2: Develop and share reliable data on crime and victimization which can serve as a basis for decision making**

Goal 2: Objectives	Tasks	Targets
<p>2.1: Maintain a data dashboard which reflects current, comprehensive and best available information on the incidence of violent crime and victimization throughout Idaho</p>	<p>2.1.1: Work with the Statistical Analysis Center and collaborate with other agencies and groups with victimization, crime, and/or other relevant data</p> <p>2.1.2: Collaborate with relevant agencies partnering on the data dashboard to ensure data remains current</p>	<p>Target 4: Update the data dashboard at least annually</p>
<p>2.2: Develop and share data on the demand and unmet need for victim services with other stakeholders to assist with effective allocation of resources</p>	<p>2.2.1: Collaborate with the Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence to complete a comprehensive victim needs assessment to be used to effectively allocate resources where and how they are most needed and identify gaps in service</p>	<p>Target 5: Prioritize funding in areas of most need as identified in the comprehensive needs assessment</p>
<p>2.3: Collect data on offender intervention programs (OIP) and repeat offenders</p>	<p>2.3.1: Collect data on individuals required to complete offender intervention programs, including demographics and completion rates, without significantly burdening providers</p> <p>2.3.2: Explore options for a searchable database DV Evaluators could use to see whether offenders have previously been involved in intervention programs in Idaho – likely not feasible to implement until 2025</p>	<p>Target 6: Continue to collect OIP data quarterly from providers</p>

**Goal 3: Serve as a key resource on issues and policies impacting victims of crime**

<b>Goal 3: Objectives</b>	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Targets</b>
<p><b>3.1:</b> Promote and fund accessible best-practice and professional development training for those working: a) with victims of crime, or b) to rehabilitate offenders</p>	<p><b>3.1.1:</b> Provide regional training opportunities which address training needs of victim service providers and offender intervention providers</p> <p><b>3.1.2:</b> Promote and fund victim-centered, trauma-informed, best practices and professional development training for a diverse array of fields (e.g. victim advocates, social workers, law enforcement, prosecutors, first responders, victim witness coordinators)</p>	<p><b>Target 7:</b> Continue to fund a training coordinator position in FY25 through a competitive grant to plan and implement the annual Safety &amp; Resilience Conference and other training needs identified by ICDVVA</p>
<p><b>3.2:</b> Continue to work with other stakeholders to meaningfully address the Murdered and Missing Indigenous People (MMIP) issue in Idaho</p>	<p><b>3.2.1:</b> Continue to partner with tribes and other stakeholders on MMIP conferences, educational outreach opportunities, data collection, &amp; policy development</p> <p><b>3.2.2:</b> Continue to serve on the ICJC MMIP Subcommittee and work to further the mission of the subcommittee</p>	
<p><b>3.3:</b> Engage in meaningful collaborations with other stakeholders to share data and resources impacting victims of crime, improve policies, and/or enhance or victim services</p>	<p><b>3.3.1:</b> Collaborate with others serving intersecting or overlapping populations (e.g., sexual assault and child abuse prevention, prosecuting attorneys, correctional officers, substance abuse and behavioral health programs, tribes, child protective services, etc.) to share information and resources</p> <p><b>3.3.2:</b> ICDVVA staff will continue to work with funded programs and other stakeholders to develop regional and statewide contact and resource lists</p>	<p><b>Target 8:</b> Invite other stakeholders to participate in regional roundtables (e.g. Victim’s Comp., ISP Grants, DDC, DHHC)</p> <p><b>Target 9:</b> Attend meetings, conferences, and trainings to keep informed about the work of others</p>
<p><b>3.4:</b> Engage in public outreach and education regarding needed and available victim services, and the prevalence and impacts of intimate partner violence and child abuse</p>	<p><b>3.4.1:</b> Continue monthly informational newsletter</p> <p><b>3.4.2:</b> Support funded program public events and outreach</p> <p><b>3.4.3:</b> Use agency website as a clearinghouse for relevant data, reports and training opportunities</p> <p><b>3.4.4:</b> Enhance agency visibility and participation in crime victim awareness events and activities</p>	<p><b>Target 10:</b> Share data &amp; information, give presentations to various stakeholders, and participate in outreach and awareness events throughout the year</p>

**Goal 4: Collaborate with other stakeholders to enhance the accessibility of resources to underserved populations and promote a sustainable safety net of critical victim services throughout Idaho**

Goal 4: Objectives	Tasks	Targets
<p>4.1: Improve accessibility of victim services for deaf and hard of hearing victims of crime</p>	<p>4.1.1: Collaborate with the Council for Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing to provide training for a Deaf Advocates Team (DAT) and ASL interpreters and ensure the DAT is available to serve victims throughout Idaho</p> <p>4.1.2: Make funding available for programs to employ or utilize deaf advocates who can serve both deaf/hard of hearing and non-deaf clients; provide funding for ASL interpreters</p> <p>4.1.3: Engage in outreach and education so that law enforcement, SANE nurses, ERs, and victim service providers are aware of and able to utilize the DAT when needed</p>	<p>Target 11: Train all funded programs on the use of DATs and encourage programs to hire and utilize DAT members to enhance accessibility</p>
<p>4.2: Improve accessibility (physical and programmatic) of victim services for disabled victims of crime</p>	<p>4.2.1: Collaborate with the Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence to improve accessibility of victim services for disabled individuals</p> <p>4.2.2: Make funding available for programs to employ disabled advocates, who can serve both disabled non-disabled clients</p> <p>4.2.3: Engage in partnership, outreach and education so that law enforcement and other stakeholders are aware of Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) ability to serve adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and CACs do so using best practices</p>	<p>Target 12: Facilitate a working group to establish best practices for serving victims with disabilities</p>
<p>4.3: Improve language access for victims of crime with limited English proficiency</p>	<p>4.3.1: Collaborate with stakeholders with existing language access plans to expand the availability of interpretation services to additional victims</p> <p>4.3.2: Make funding available for programs to provide meaningful language access to all victims</p> <p>4.3.3: Provide assistance to victim service programs to build language access plans for their communities</p>	<p>Target 13: Work toward a statewide program for interpretation/translation services (language and ASL) all victim service providers could utilize</p> <p>Target 14: Provide training on best practices</p>

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## Cybersecurity Plan

ICDVVA is assigned to Information Technology Services (ITS) for IT support and believes that ITS has addressed cybersecurity issues as required. However, because ICDVVA is attached to the Department of Health & Welfare for budget purposes, ICDVVVA must also use some DHW IT systems. Council staff must remote into DHW IT systems. The DHW Strategic Plan addresses DHW compliance with Executive Order 2017-02. Compliant with the Governor’s order, all ICDVVA staff are required to complete the state’s annual cybersecurity training.

## Red Tape Reduction Act

In accordance with the Governor’s Red Tape Reduction Act (Executive order 2019-02) the ICDVVA Executive Director is designated as the Rules Review Officer (RRO) to undertake a critical and comprehensive review of the agency’s administrative rules to identify costly, ineffective, or outdated regulations. The applicable administrative rules are found in [IDAPA § 16.05.04](#). The Council has only one Chapter of Administrative Code. The Council went through the negotiated rulemaking process in 2021 and 2022 with revised rules pending before the Idaho Legislature in 2023. Restrictive words were reduced by 80% (39) and word count was reduced by 37% (1,805).

	Existing Rules	20% Reduction Goal	Actual Reduction	Pending Rules
Restrictive Words	49	10	39	17
Total Words	4,814	963	1,805	3,009