

# Idaho Council ON Domestic Violence AND Victim Assistance

## 2025 Annual Report

December 15, 2025

The Legislature created the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance (Council) in 1982 to address the disruptive influence of domestic violence on society, provide protection and refuge to victims, and administer grant funding for victim services throughout Idaho. [Idaho Code § 39-5201](#). The Council is required to submit annual reports to the governor and the legislature per [Idaho Code § 39-5208\(8\)](#). We appreciate the opportunity to share this legislative report summarizing the work of our agency during 2025. Your feedback is welcome, and we are happy to answer questions.

### Mission, Vision, and Purpose

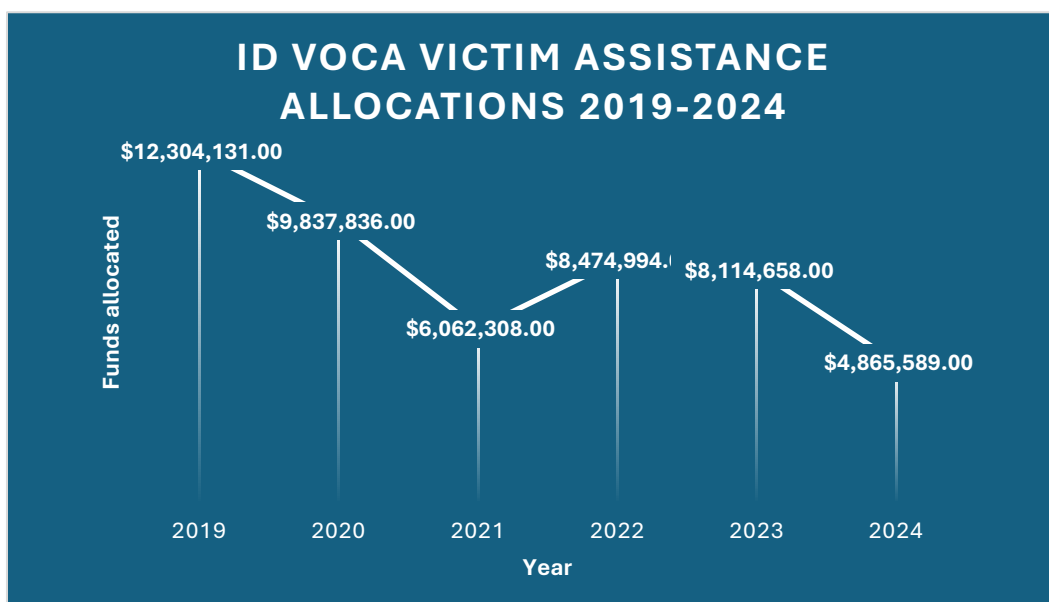
The Council's mission is to ensure that all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and other violent crimes in Idaho have access to quality trauma-informed and victim-centered services. Our vision is that victim services should be accessible and sustainable throughout the State while promoting, advocating for, and encouraging resiliency and empowerment of victims.



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.

## Sustaining Victim Service Programs

Most of Idaho's funding for victim services is from the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance formula grant. VOCA awards declined significantly in recent years, and all states have struggled to navigate this funding decline, with many losing victim service programs. **If our rural Idaho programs cannot survive the funding decline, they likely will not return when funds rebound, so sustaining programs has been a key Council objective.**



The Council's Executive Director began serving on the board of the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA) in 2023, which will help ensure that primarily rural states like Idaho have a voice in national discussions, including those regarding the current balance of the Crime Victims Fund (which funds VOCA awards from penalties on federal crimes).

Recognizing the volatility of victim services funding, the Council continued to prioritize goals, objectives, and initiatives that serve to sustain victim services through the efficient use of funding resources. The following report highlights this work during 2025.

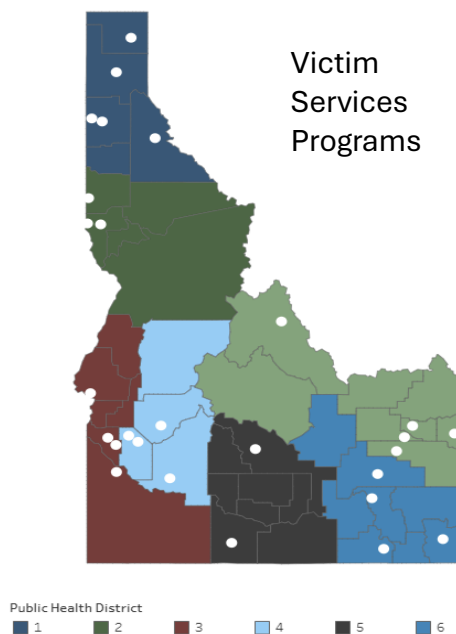
## Optimizing the Efficient Use of Resources

The Council sets an annual goal of utilizing all federal funds and reverting zero dollars. In September 2025, four federal funding awards expired and all four were fully utilized with zero dollars reverted. This included the 2021 VOCA award of \$6.01 million and the 2024 Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA) award of \$1.2 million. In addition, \$3.5 million in

supplemental federal Covid funds awarded in 2022 were fully expended by the September 2025 expiration. These funds were allocated to Idaho victim service providers over a three-year period to help sustain programs during the ongoing VOCA decline. ICDVVA utilized just 2.7% of these supplemental funds for administrative costs, ensuring that over 97% of the supplemental Covid funding was utilized to support victim services.



## Prioritizing Funding for Direct Victim Services



To ensure the most efficient use of victim services funding, the Council sets a goal of allocating at least 65% of awarded funds for direct victim services such as emergency shelter and housing assistance, counseling and legal services, client transportation, and staffing for victim advocates and case managers. In FFY2025, ICDVVA grant awards totaled \$11.01 million with 88% of the funds awarded to support direct victim services.

VOCA data for federal fiscal year 2025 (October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025)<sup>1</sup> reports that 30,126 individuals received services from Idaho victim services programs receiving VOCA funding. Of those, 71% were receiving services for the first time.

VOCA data reporting indicates the most prevalent victimization types include:

Victimization	Per Quarter Average # Served
Domestic/Family Violence	4,413
Adult Physical and Sexual Assault	1,200
Child Physical Abuse & Neglect	1,143
Stalking/Harassment	857
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	800

<sup>1</sup> FFY2025 VOCA Victim Assistance Formula Grant Annual State Performance Report for Idaho

Top services received during the same reporting period include:

- **Shelter/Housing Services** (e.g., emergency shelter, transitional housing, relocation assistance)
- **Individual Advocacy** (e.g., advocacy/accompaniment, emergency medical care/forensic exams, law enforcement interviews, child/dependent care assistance, transportation assistance)
- **Emotional Support/Safety Planning** (e.g., crisis intervention, on-scene crisis response, counseling, support groups)

Looking ahead, the legislature approved a one-time appropriation of \$3 million for SFY 2026 to support child advocacy centers (CACs) across the state. CACs provide a coordinated, evidence-based response to children experiencing abuse. This appropriation will enhance the efforts of Idaho's CACs to provide medical exams, forensic interviews, therapy, victim advocacy, case management, courtroom preparation, and other services in a safe, child-focused environment.

## Collaborating to Enhance Service Accessibility

According to the Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ICDHH), approximately 240,000 individuals in Idaho have some degree of hearing loss. Within this population, approximately 30,000 are completely deaf and rely on visual communication like sign language. Deaf and hard of hearing individuals experience higher rates of victimization compared to the hearing population. Victimization experienced by deaf and hard of hearing individuals is often unreported due to obstacles in reporting, including communication barriers, limited interpreter availability, and lack of trauma-informed training for those providing assistance.

To address this issue here in Idaho, nine specially trained deaf advocates are available to assist victims statewide through a collaboration between the Council and ICDHH. The Council also established a funding set-aside to ensure victim service programs have access to ASL interpreting services, allowing funded programs to access ASL interpreting services with costs billed directly to the Council.

## Enhancing Grant Administration Efficiency

In 2025, the Council completed its implementation of Euna Solutions (formerly AmpliFund), a new grant management system. This was a two-year effort in collaboration with the State Controller's Office to improve the efficiency of the Council's grant administration processes. The final step was to ensure seamless integration with Luma, the state's enterprise system. As of June 2025,

grant reimbursements are received, reviewed, and verified for processing through Euna Solutions and transmitted to Luma for final approval and payment processing. This effort has resulted in tremendous efficiencies in manpower and significantly reduced processing time resulting in faster payments to victim services programs. This project was funded through a \$500,000 federal grant awarded in 2022. Final implementation and integration costs were under \$300,000, thereby saving taxpayer money.

## Providing Professional Development Training



The Council hosted its Safety & Resilience Conference, a multi-disciplinary conference attended by more than 400 victim service providers, law enforcement, court personnel, attorneys, social workers, and other related professionals on June 3 & 4, 2025. This two-day conference featured two keynote speakers and more than 30 breakout sessions, including three interactive simulations on poverty, domestic

violence, and probation. Attendees engaged in topics including domestic violence, sexual assault, child maltreatment, human trafficking, law enforcement, and the justice system. The conference is a vital source of training and information for those engaged in all aspects of victim services and provides continuing education credits for social workers, law enforcement, and lawyers.

In addition, the Council hosted a one-day roundtable for its funded programs on September 24, 2025. Victim services programs have been challenged in 2025 with the instability of federal, state, and community donor funding. To assist programs in navigating these uncertain times, the roundtable featured training on building and sustaining organizational and programmatic capacity.

## Enhancing Offender Intervention Program Sustainability

The Council currently oversees 19 approved Offender Intervention Programs (OIP). Several OIP providers are small agencies with limited staff and program supervisors who are approaching retirement within the next few years. In an ongoing effort to evaluate program standards and ensure continuity and availability of domestic violence intervention services throughout the state, the OIP Committee approved an Equivalency Assessment as a formal means for applicants seeking

to become a Program Supervisor to have their prior education and work/life experience evaluated in lieu of a master's degree. OIP providers must have an approved Program Supervisor and, under the new equivalency process, OIP providers with experience in domestic violence intervention services and other relevant education and experience can be considered for this required position. This aligns with House Bill 433 passed during the 2024 legislative session that amends existing law to provide for qualification equivalency for certain degree requirements through skills, capabilities, and work or other relevant experience.

Additionally, the Council approved a one-year pilot program with Trivium Life Services to implement and evaluate a new comprehensive offender intervention curriculum that addresses not only abusive behaviors, but also the underlying trauma and cognitive distortions that contribute to that behavior. The pilot program will provide offenders with individualized support intended to promote long-term behavioral change and reduce recidivism.

## Funding, Expenditures, and Current Subawards

Additional information relating to the Council's funding and expenses is included in the Department of Health & Welfare's annual Facts, Figures, and Trends report. A summary of FFY2026 victim services grant awards is on the Council's [website](#), including information on the Council members currently serving (pursuant to appointment by the Governor).

## Contact Information

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