

Program # 15014 - Victim's Assistance

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Priority: Safety Net Services **Lead Agency:** District Attorney
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating **Program Contact:** Scott Marcy
Related Programs: 15005, 15006, 15007, 15008, 15012, 15013, 15015
Frameworks:

Executive Summary

The Victims Assistance Program assists victims of crime with crisis response, advocacy, court preparation and accompaniment, referral to services and assistance with obtaining a restitution order from the court.

Program Description

The program provides legal information and support for victims throughout the processing of the case and is responsible for ensuring that victims are provided a notice of rights and remedies available (like the rights to be present at court hearings, to be heard, and to restitution, among others). The Victims Assistance Program provides victim advocates who work directly with victims of crime to assist them in advocating for and exercising their rights in the criminal justice system. Advocates provide immediate crisis intervention and response, accompaniment to court hearings, referral to services, assistance with obtaining restitution orders from the court, and information and notice of the case progress through the criminal justice system. The program includes an extensive network of approximately 60 on-call advocate volunteers trained to provide on site assistance, (generally at the hospital where the victim has been taken following a report) aid and referral to services to victims of sexual assault 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The program educates and assists victims in accessing other needed social services and temporary shelter, if necessary. The advocates coordinate with social service agencies and other providers to assure that the victims get the services they need.

Program Justification

This program helps accomplish the priority by providing access to short term crisis invention which can include referral social services and temporary shelter if necessary and leads to long term stability. The program is required by law to educate victims about their rights and the remedies available to them under the law and provides assistance in working with the public safety system. The program works cooperatively with state and local agencies and non-profits by referring victims to services that will lead individuals and families to long term stability.

Performance Measures

The performance measure for this program is the total number of victims who are provided information, referral and assistance during the calendar year.

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

During calendar year 2004 this program made 4,660 contacts for the purpose of providing information and referrals. In fiscal year 2005/2006 a proposed \$30,000 cut could reduce the number of personal contacts our Victims Advocates are able to make.

Program Mandate: 2 Mandated Program with Funding/Service Level Choice

Article I Section 42 Oregon Constitution; Rights of Victims in criminal prosecutions and juvenile delinquency proceedings.

ORS 147.405, ORS 147.410, ORS 147.417 Victim to be notified of constitution rights.

ORS 147.227 Disbursement of moneys to be used for comprehensive victim's assistance programs.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$358,691	\$133,889	\$306,964	\$209,059
Contracts	\$2,272	\$9,918	\$2,272	\$1,000
Materials & Supplies	\$5,552	\$1,354	\$5,685	\$0
Internal Services	\$39,267	\$0	\$42,211	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$405,782	\$145,161	\$357,132	\$210,059
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$40,910	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$127,132	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$168,042	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$405,782	\$145,161	\$525,174	\$210,059
Program Total:	\$550,943		\$735,233	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	4.88	3.12
Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$307,000	\$145,161	\$277,019	\$156,281
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,778
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$307,000	\$145,161	\$277,019	\$210,059

Explanation of Revenues

Victims Assistance revenue from the state will be reduced by at least \$30,000 in FY06.

Significant Program Changes

The VA program partners with a number of agencies including: Portland Women's Crisis line, Portland Housing Authority, State Crime Victims Assistance, The 211 system, El Progamma Hispano, Aging and Disability Services, DCJ, Mult. Health Dept., Child Abuse Response and Evaluation Services (CARES) and the State Dept. of Human services. The program is also involved in multiagency efforts such as Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT), the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), and a developing project through Portland State University on improving access to the criminal justice system for disabled victims.

The program assists victims with the establishment of restitution. In 2004 over \$5 million was awarded to victims in Mult. Co. The program regularly collaborates with DCJ in helping to get restitution paid.