

# State Victim Services Funding

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**2021**

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Montana Board of Crime Control  
Budget Finance Section D, December 2021



# State Victim Funding

## Montana

Population: 1.09 million (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: Montana Board of Crime Control

### Funds Available:

- Domestic Violence Intervention Account: \$127,000/year
  - \$13 from each marriage license.
  - Can be used for supervision/intervention programs related to misdemeanor PFMA's at the City and County level in Montana.

## States Involved

The following states graciously provided information regarding funding in their respective states:

- Ohio
- Wyoming
- Michigan
- Alaska
- New York
- Utah
- Idaho
- Washington

Each state was reached out to and asked about any state funding that is available.

***“For too long, the victims of crime have been the forgotten persons of our criminal justice system.”***

***~Ronald Reagan***

### Ohio

Population: 11.75 million (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: Ohio Attorney General's Office

Funds Available:

- State Victims Assistance Act Fund: 3,500,000/ year
  - This funding is primarily from driver's license reinstatement fees, as well as fines/fees imposed on offenders. That said, that doesn't account for the full amount in the fund each year, some of it comes from just general revenues that are allocated by the legislature during the state budget process that occurs every 2 years.
  - *Ohio Statute 109.91*
- Rape Crisis Fund: \$10,000,000/year
  - This line is for rape crisis centers who meet the core standards for rape crisis centers according to the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence.
- Domestic Violence Fund: \$5,000,000/year
  - This line is for domestic violence programs (not just shelters) that meet the core standards for domestic violence programs according to the Ohio Domestic Violence Network.
- Finding My Childhood Program through domestic violence shelter in Akron, Ohio: 350,000/year
- Domestic Violence Shelter in Ravenna, Ohio: \$50,000/year
  - These 2 lines were lobbied by the individual programs, and the Ohio Attorney General's office was chosen to administer the fund since they administer all of the other state victim services funds, but only these 2 programs are eligible to receive these "carveouts."

### Wyoming

Population: 700,000 (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: Wyoming Office of the Attorney General, Division of Victim Services

Funds Available:

- State General Funds: 3,489,173.50/year
  - State Taxes, etc.
- Special Revenue: 2,595,755.50/year
  - Criminal fines and fees- like VOCA funding scheme- not tax dollars
- The 2023-2024 Biennium Budget for **DV/SA Programs** is: \$ 4,952,671.00 (\$2,476,335.50 per year). These are all General Funds appropriated by the Wyoming Legislature.
  - *Wyoming Statutes Annotated: 9-1-638. Division of victim services; duties and responsibilities and 9-1-639. Attorney general; funds accounting; reporting requirements*
- There is also a separate appropriation for the **Victim/Witness Programs** which are funded by both a General Fund appropriation, but also receive Surcharge Funds because they generally are only eligible for a portion of the VAWA-STOP Grant.
  - There are 6 DV/SA programs that are also V/W programs and receive funding allotments for both functions.
- A section of the Wyoming Victim Services budget that is given to the Legislative Appropriations Committee of how the Division of Victim Services uses their budget:
  - The State General funds are distributed through formula to 23 domestic violence/sexual assault shelter service providers; 26 Victim/Witness programs located in government agencies servicing all victims of crime; 5 dual programs offering services to all victims of crime, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking; 8 special project programs including Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) programs; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) programs and 3 Child Advocacy Programs; and 1 Family Justice Center, and are used to provider shelter services, crisis intervention, social service advocacy, medical advocacy, legal advocacy, court accompaniment, transportation to court, peer support groups, forensic interviews, referral services and follow up services to name a few to women, men and children who have been victims of crime.

### **Michigan**

Population: 10.2 million (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: The Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board

#### Funds Available:

- State Sexual Assault Victims' Medical Intervention and Treatment Act
  - 2.5% of court assessments and costs - Sexual Assault Victims' Medical Forensic Intervention and Treatment Act
  - MCL 400.153 - creates a fund legislatively assigned to the Board which is designated to fund organizations providing sexual assault medical forensic examinations and services to victims of sexual assault. The fund is supported by the Justice System Fund
  - MCL 600.181 – which deposits 2.5% of court assessments and costs into the Sexual Assault Victims' Medical Forensic Intervention and Treatment Act.
    - (xi) To the sexual assault victims' medical forensic intervention and treatment fund created in section 3 of the sexual assault victims' medical forensic intervention and treatment act, 2008 PA 546, MCL 400.1533, 2.65% of the fund balance.
- State Children's Advocacy Center Act
  - Justice System Fund: 1.85% of court assessments and costs
  - MCL 722.1041 - creates a fund legislatively assigned to the Board which is designated to provide support and training to Child Advocacy Centers. The fund is supported by the Justice System Fund
  - MCL 600.181 - which deposits 1.85% of court assessments and costs into the Children's Advocacy Center Fund.
    - (1) The justice system fund is created in the state treasury. The money in the fund shall be used as provided in this section.
    - (xii) To the children's advocacy center fund created in section 3 of the children's advocacy center act, 2008 PA 544, MCL 722.1043, 1.85% of the fund balance.
- State Compulsive Gaming Prevention Fund
  - Of the money available in the compulsive gaming prevention fund, up to \$1,040,000.00 may be distributed annually to the domestic violence and treatment board created in section 2 of 1978 PA 389, MCL 400.1502.
  - MCL 432.253 - designates a portion of the compulsive gaming prevention fund to the Board.

### **Alaska**

Population: 731,338 (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Funds Available:

- State General Fund: 8,640,000/year
  - This is built into the Annual Budget, no special revenues or fines.
  - Funds are issued via a competitive RFP process that is generally conducted every 3 years.
  - They are able to request additional funding if needed, in which it would go through the Governor's Office, the Office of Management and Budget, and then is up to the legislature to pass. Though they have not had to do this in the past few years.

### **New York**

Population: 18.8 million (2021 estimate)

State Criminal Justice Improvement Account:

- Not a general fund account, instead it is an account that receives money from fines and penalties levied on criminal justice system involved individuals pursuant to state law. Constructed similarly to the Crime Victims Fund, but on a State level.
  - State Special Revenue Account - the criminal justice improvement account shall consist of monies received by the state pursuant to *Section 60.35* of the penal law and monies received by the state pursuant to *Section 1809* of the vehicle and traffic law from any court of the unified court system, other than town or village courts, and all other fees, fines, grants, bequests or other monies credited, appropriated or transferred thereto from any other fund or source.
  - Such account shall also consist of all monies received by the division of criminal justice services pursuant to subdivision ten of section 168(b) of the correction law. Generally, this account is supported by mandatory surcharges and crime victim assistance fees assessed on certain offenders.
- This supplements New York's VOCA Victim Compensation.

### Utah

Population: 3.34 million (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: Utah Attorney General's Office

Funds Available:

- State Funds: Unknown
  - Distributed to and for Children Justice Centers/ Child Advocacy Centers
  - 67-5b-103 Appropriation and funding.
    - (1) Funding for centers under this section is intended to be broad-based, provided by a line item appropriation by the Legislature to the attorney general, and is intended to include *federal grant money, local government money, and private donations*.
    - (2) The money appropriated shall be used to contract with the county responsible for the operation and accountability of a center in accordance with Section 67-5b-102.
    - (3) The money appropriated may be used by the program to provide resources and contract as needed to support the development of the program and the implementation of evidence-based practices and requirements.

### Idaho

Population: 1.85 million (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance

Funds Available:

- State Dedicated fund: 172,800/year (to DV shelters)
  - \$15 marriage licenses
  - \$20 divorces
  - \$10 each protection order violation
    - Funds can be used for DV shelters, and for anything that isn't covered by a federal grant, such as oversight of the offender intervention program.
    - The legislature annually approves the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance budget, but the dedicated fund accumulates so the legislature just authorizes maximum expenditures in a given state budget year.

### Washington

Population: 7.8 million (2021 estimate)

Administering Agency: Washington State Department of Commerce, Office of Crime Victims Advocacy

#### Funds Available:

- Sexual Assault Fund: 6 mil/ year
  - RCW - 43.280.010 - Intent.
  - The legislature recognizes the need to increase the services available to the victims of sexual assault. The legislature also recognizes that these services are most effectively planned and provided at the local level through the combined efforts of concerned community and citizens groups, treatment providers, and local government officials. The legislature further recognizes that adequate services for victims is not only a matter of justice for the victim, but also a method by which additional abuse can be prevented.
  - The legislature intends to enhance the community-based services available to the victims of sexual assault by:
    - (1) Providing consolidated funding support for local programs which provide services to victims of sexual assault, as defined in RCW 70.125.030;
    - (2) Providing technical assistance and support to help communities plan for and provide victim services;
    - (3) Providing sexual assault services with a victim-focused mission, and consistent standards, policies, and granting and reporting requirements; and
    - (4) Providing communities and local victim service providers with opportunities to share information about successful prevention and treatment programs.
- Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Fund: 1.2 mil/ year
  - Supports 15 hours a week in each county through community-based services
- Crime Victim Service Centers: 1 mil/ year
  - These funds are dedicated to services for crimes other than domestic violence and sexual violence
- Victim/Witness Programs: 1 mil/ year
  - Funding specific to prosecutor's offices
- All the funding comes out of general funds.
  - All the above funding has been a part of general funds and the budget for over a decade.
- *Separate Funding:* State Department of Health and Human Services in WA
  - 8 mil/ year for domestic violence shelters and intervention programming.