



Office for Victims of Crime

Rights • Access • Equity

Helping Crime Survivors Find Their Justice

What do we do?

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) awards millions of dollars annually in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and some territories, as well as for training, technical assistance, and other capacity-building programs to enhance service providers' ability to support victims of crime in communities across the Nation. We also connect victim service providers and crime victims with resources, develop research-informed training and publications, and support innovative programs, promising practices, and resource centers.

In all that we do, we make every effort to ensure *all* victims of crime have access to rights, options, and services that are delivered in culturally relevant, victim-centered, and trauma-informed ways.

Formation of OVC

Created in 1983 to implement recommendations from the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) was authorized in 1988 through an amendment to the **Victims of Crime Act** of 1984 to administer the **Crime Victims Fund**.

The Crime Victims Fund

The **Crime Victims Fund** (CVF), established by the **Victims of Crime Act of 1984**, is composed primarily of fines, penalties, special assessments, and bond forfeitures from federal convictions, not tax dollars. The CVF supports thousands of programs annually with millions of dollars invested in services provided directly to crime victims who have suffered physical, emotional, and financial harm from victimization.





Formula Funding

OVC administers the **Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) formula grant programs** to states and territories for supporting crime victim compensation and assistance—the cornerstone of support for victims throughout the Nation. OVC is also charged by Congress with administering set-aside funds from the Crime Victims Fund for a **Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside program** that provides support to Tribal communities to enhance services for victims of crime.

Discretionary Funding

Organizations compete for OVC's **discretionary funds** by **applying** for specific funding opportunities designed to support local victim service providers or national-scope demonstration and service projects. Funds are distributed directly to the recipient organizations. OVC's **most recent awards** have included funding to provide housing assistance for victims of human trafficking, to advance hospital-based victim services, to expand Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner services, and to enhance access to services for all victims of crime including people with disabilities and with limited English proficiency.

Learn More

- Listing of OVC-funded projects: ovc.ojp.gov/funding/awards
- Funding opportunities: ovc.ojp.gov/funding/current-funding-opportunities
- The application process: <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/>
- Training and technical assistance: ovc.ojp.gov/training-and-technical-assistance
- Events: ovc.ojp.gov/events
- OVC programs and initiatives: ovc.ojp.gov/programs
- Help for victims: ovc.ojp.gov/help-for-victims/overview
- Responding to mass violence incidents: ovc.ojp.gov/program/terrorism-mass-violence/overview
- 2023 Report to the Nation: <https://ovc.ojp.gov/2023-report-nation>

Mission

OVC is committed to enhancing the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to providing leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime.

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