

In North Carolina, investing in survivor services isn't just the right thing to do—it creates safer communities, strengthens public health, and reduces long-term costs.

Survivor Services Include:

Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) are essential community resources that provide a safe, child-friendly environment where abused children can find hope, healing, and justice. At CACs, we bring together a multidisciplinary team (MDT) of professionals—including law enforcement, child protective services, prosecutors, victim advocates, medical and mental health professionals—to work collaboratively on child abuse cases. This team approach ensures that the investigation, treatment, and prosecution of child abuse cases are handled in a way that is efficient, effective, and child-centered. By minimizing trauma and providing comprehensive support, CACs help children and their nonoffending family members heal while holding offenders accountable.

Domestic violence service providers offer a variety of life-saving services to help victims of domestic violence respond to and prevent future violence. They operate 24/7 crisis hotlines and offer a range of services including safety planning, crisis intervention, emergency and transitional housing, court advocacy, counseling, legal services, and prevention programming. DV advocates are community experts on how to respond to and prevent domestic violence, making them a vital part of community safety across North Carolina.

Sexual Assault providers maintain hotlines, facilitate support groups, provide medical accompaniment, and legal advocacy for survivors across all 100 counties. VOCA funding provides services to thousands of victims of sexual assault across North Carolina. It funds approximately 2,500 support groups for victims, and provides educational programming to North Carolinians, including at schools. Sexual assault advocates ensure that survivors are cared for across the lifespan, and often accompany survivors throughout their entire healing journey.

76,040

**North Carolinians
Served Last Year**



North Carolina survivor service agencies are heavily impacted by VOCA cuts, to better understand the federal landscape of VOCA see the reverse.

Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA)

VOCA funding is allocated to programs that help prevent and respond to crime, offering services like counseling, legal assistance, emergency shelter, and victim advocacy. By assuring service provision availability now you prevent a much more costly expense to the state in the future.

VOCA Grants are the primary source of federal funding for thousands of victim service providers, serving victims of child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault. VOCA is a key component within the entire criminal justice system because it funds critical services to victims of crimes so they can not only heal, but also work towards pursuing justice.

VOCA grants (released from the Crime Victims Fund (CVF)) are non-taxpayer sources of funding that support thousands of crime victims service providers serving millions of victims of crime annually. CVF is funded by monetary penalties associated with federal criminal convictions and with deferred prosecution agreements (DPAs) and non-prosecution agreements (NPAs).

White-collar criminal prosecutions and fines associated with these crimes (which fill the Crime Victims Fund) are at a 20 year low, meaning the CVF has experienced a number of years of concerning low deposits.

VOCA allocations to the states continue to decrease, causing decreased grants to victim service providers. If deposits follow the predictions for 2025, victim service providers will reach a 97% cut in VOCA funding. It remains to be seen how states will implement the most recent FY24 cuts.

Deposits into the CVF have been declining since 2018 and are at a historic low. North Carolina was receiving over \$100 million and has steadily decreased to currently receiving less than \$25 million, deposits have not been this low since 2003.