



UTAH OFFICE FOR  
VICTIMS OF CRIME

# ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2024



# Message from the Director

*As the new Director of the Utah Office for Victims of Crime, I am honored to lead an organization so deeply committed to supporting the prevention of crime and the healing of those affected by crime. Over the past year, our Office has worked tirelessly to fulfill its mission of providing resources and assistance to victims and communities, navigating both challenges and growth with resilience and dedication.*

*In 2024, our Victim Reparations Program provided services to over 10,000 individuals, offering critical financial relief and support to those in need. Additionally, through our Grants Program, we awarded over \$21 million to organizations across the state, helping victim service providers augment their resources to carry out their vital work.*

*This year has been one of growth and transition for our team. Despite any challenges, the unwavering commitment of our staff has been a cornerstone of our success. Their dedication and expertise have allowed us to continue serving victims with compassion and professionalism. I am inspired by the strength of this team and look forward to building upon their efforts as we move into the future.*

*Thank you for your continued trust in our work. Together, we will strive to make a lasting impact in the lives of people and communities across Utah.*

*Chyleen Richey*

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## Table of Contents

- Crime Victims Compensation 03
- Sexual Assault Forensic Exams 04
- Advocacy Center 04
- UOVC State Grants 05
- UOVC Federal Grants 06
- Training and Outreach Program 08

# Crime Victim Compensation

The UOVC Compensation Program offers a safety net for individuals affected by crime by providing financial assistance to help cover the costs incurred as a result of the crime. This support can include, but is not limited to, medical bills, counseling services, burial and funeral expenses, and lost wages. The program recognizes the impact crime has not only on the direct victims but also on their families, extending eligibility for assistance to family members who may also be facing financial hardships due to the crime. By easing the financial burden, the Compensation Program helps victims and their loved ones focus on recovery and healing during an incredibly difficult time.

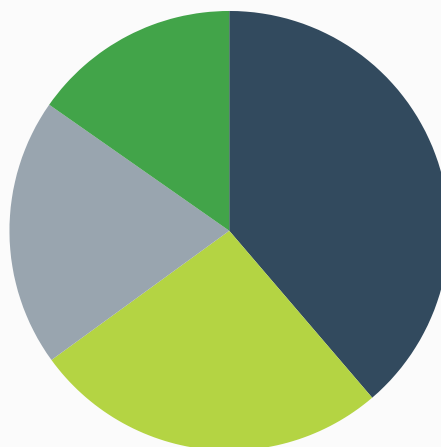
## \$3,282,685.94

Payments made to and on behalf of crime victims

Medical	\$1,391,025.93
Mental Health	\$681,726.48
Loss of Wages	\$465,655.54
Funeral & Burial	\$231,818.54
Relocation	\$194,073.21
Replacement Services	\$111,249.57
Dental	\$77,779.48
Inpatient Counseling	\$39,155.67
Security	\$31,138.23
Residential/Day Treatment	\$31,022.08
Travel & Mileage	\$14,353.50
Crime Scene Cleanup	\$4,869.00
Essential Personal Property	\$4,644.18
Pharmacy	\$4,174.53

**“ I received therapy through your office paying for it for me, and I wanted to thank you for making this possible. I have gone from living the nightmare all the time, to very calm and able to live more life.**

### Applications Recieved



**3,077** Sexual Assault

**2,087** Domestic Violence, Aggravated Assault, & Assault

**1,567** Child Sexual and Physical Abuse

**1,214** Other Crime Types

# Sexual Assault Forensic Exams

UOVC covers services under the Code R Program that include the medical sexual assault forensic examination with photo documentation, the facility fee, medications for the prevention of pregnancy, and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases.

The sexual assault forensic examination must be reported to law enforcement or DCFS by the healthcare provider performing the examination; however, a sexual assault victim is not required to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law enforcement or prosecution to qualify under the Code R Program.

SA Examinations	\$1,501,632.38
SA Evidence Collection	\$36,900.43
SA Patient Care	\$141,749.45
SA Facility	\$98,425.40
SA HIV Meds	\$23,184.18
SA Labs	\$45,663.16
SA RX Non HIV	\$42,426.09

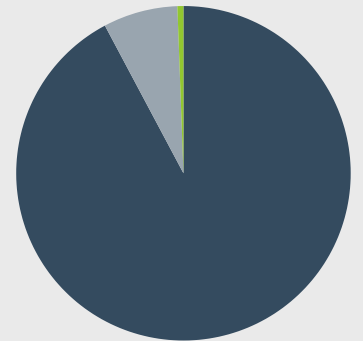
## Advocacy Center

The UOVC Victim Advocacy Center provides essential support to individuals impacted by crime. Advocates guide victims through the reparations process, ensuring they can access financial assistance for expenses like medical bills and therapy. The center also offers crisis intervention, emergency financial aid for basic needs, and referrals to additional community resources. With a focus on addressing immediate needs and supporting recovery, the center helps victims navigate the challenges they face and move toward stability.



### Information and Referrals

- Provide information about the Criminal Justice process
- Give referrals to other victim services programs, services, and support
- Inform victims of their rights



### Emergency Financial Support

UOVC's Advocacy Center provides emergency funds to victims awaiting a determination on their compensation claim.

**\$139,146.71**-Rental Assistance

**\$10,888.75**- Groceries

**\$835.11**-Other needs

# UOVC State Grants

Awarded by the Utah Legislature in the 2023 session, UOVC is responsible to provide funding for 1) Sexual Assault Services and 2) Other Victim Services, including but not limited to criminal justice victim advocacy programs, legal services for crime victims, and services that specialize in assisting underserved populations.

## ★ Victim Services

The purpose for this funding is to ensure that core services for all crime victims are available throughout the state, more specifically in the areas of criminal justice victim advocacy programs, legal services for crime victims, and programs that assist underserved victims of crime.

This funding allows a criminal justice, systems-based advocate to be funded in most counties in the State of Utah.

## ★ Sexual Assault Services

The purpose of this funding is to stabilize and enhance sexual assault services across the state of Utah.

Along with funding rape crisis centers across the state, this funding also provides support to two state-recognized coalitions which provide training and technical support.

“We are thankful for UOVC and the great help this funding provides for crime victims in our area. Thank you for all you do to help make that happen!”



### Total Programs Funded

32 Victim Services Programs  
27 Sexual Assault Services Programs



### Total Victims Served

5,698 served using Victim Services funding  
5,481 served using Sexual Assault funding

### Funds Awarded

➡ **\$1,879,639.70**  
Victim Services

➡ **\$3,840,806.50**  
Sexual Assault Services

# UOVC Federal Grants

UOVC is the agency authorized to administer three federal grant programs for the State of Utah. These funds come from the Department of Justice’s Office of Victims of Crime and Office of Violence Against Women and are awarded to agencies across the state to provide services to victims of crime.

## ★ VOCA - Victims of Crime Act

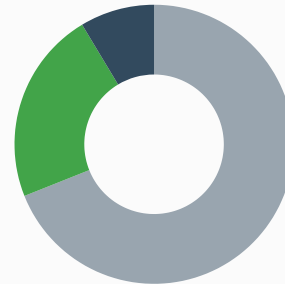
VOCA funding provides federal grants to support services for victims of crime. It helps fund programs like counseling, emergency shelters, legal aid, and other assistance to aid recovery and ensure victim rights.

## ★ VAWA - Violence Against Women Act

This grant program provides funding for projects that assist in efforts to reduce violence against women and men, specifically domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and female genital mutilation. STOP VAWA Grants promote a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice systems’ response to violence against women. This approach envisions a partnership among law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, victims advocates, and service providers to ensure victim safety and offender accountability.

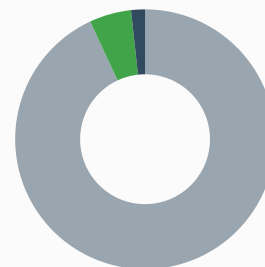
## ★ SASP - Sexual Assault Services Program

The purpose of SASP funding is to support the creation, sustainability, and growth of rape crisis centers and other nongovernmental or tribal programs dedicated to assisting individuals impacted by sexual assault, regardless of their age. These funds are specifically intended to provide direct intervention and related support services to ensure survivors receive the care and assistance they need.



**Total Programs Funded**

80 VOCA programs  
26 VAWA programs  
10 SASP programs



**Total Victims Served**

66,265 VOCA services  
3,711 VAWA services  
1,230 SASP services



**\$12,810,085.47**

VOCA Funds Awarded



**\$1,767,256.43**

VAWA Funds Awarded



**\$646,141.13**

SASP Funds Awarded



# The Utah Office for Victims of Crime

## A Brief Introduction to Victim Services Funding

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### VOCA

Eligibility: Public or non-profit organization which provides direct services to crime victims

VOCA funds programs like:

- Law enforcement victim service programs
- Domestic violence programs
- Sexual assault programs
- Children's Justice Centers
- Legal services and advocates
- Sexual assault forensic examiners
- Underserved and culturally specific victim services

VOCA supports nearly all crime types

### STOP VAWA

Eligibility: Public or non-profit organization which provides direct services to crime victims

STOP VAWA funds programs like:

- Law enforcement officers, prosecutors and advocates
- Domestic violence programs
- Sexual assault programs
- Sexual assault forensic examiners
- Legal services
- Underserved and culturally specific victim services
- Specialized training programs



STOP VAWA supports victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and female genital mutilation.

### SASP

Eligibility: Non-profit, non-governmental organization that provide direct services sexual assault victims of any age

SASP funds programs like:

- Rape crisis centers
- underserved and culturally specific sexual assault programs

The purpose of SASP is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, and related assistance for victims of sexual assault of all ages, their families, and those affected by the assault.

### State

Eligibility: Public or non-profit organization providing direct services to crime victims

State funds programs like:

- Criminal justice victim services
- SANE programs
- Rape crisis centers
- Underserved and culturally specific sexual assault programs
- Sexual assault specific state coalitions
- Legal services and advocates
- Underserved and culturally specific victim services

State funding can support nearly all crime types

Additional information on open funding opportunities and their specific requirements can be found at [www.crimevictim.utah.gov/grants](http://www.crimevictim.utah.gov/grants)

# Training and Outreach Program

The Training and Outreach program focuses on providing training and technical assistance to victim service providers across the state of Utah. They facilitated four one-day trainings and three two-week academies. They also gave several presentations on various topics all throughout the state. Lastly, this team is actively participating in various committees and subcommittees that will affect victims of crime and improve systems.

“This course (UVAA) is a wealth of knowledge. The instructors that you were able to get to present were outstanding. I really enjoyed the last two weeks. I would recommend this course to anyone in the position of Victim Advocacy.”

## TRAINING

### SWAVO: Statewide Advocates for Victims Organization

Quarterly SWAVO training events were hosted in different regions of the state and via Zoom to ensure accessibility. These trainings are for victim service providers.

**Total SWAVO Registered Participants: 550**

### Utah Victim Assistance Academy

40 hour comprehensive training that is in compliance with Utah Code [76-38-405](#). This is a two week training hosted three times for victim advocates in Utah.

**Total Victim Advocates Trained: 73**

### Training Provided

The training team gave presentations to victim service providers and the community on victim rights, best practices in serving underserved communities, trauma informed response, mass violence, role of an advocate, and safety planning.

**Total Presentations Given: 52**

## OUTREACH

14 Organizations were contacted to introduce UOVC programs and to learn about their organization.

The outreach team has worked to build a rapport with the tribal community by attending the tribal leader meetings and attending a Pow Wow in Cedar City.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Improving Victim Services Taskforce

The Improving Victim Services Strategic Plan was finalized in September 2023 and the taskforce was changed to the Improving Victim Services Taskforce in November 2023.

The focus is now on the action plan of the strategic plan. **Total Taskforce Meetings: 10**

### Advocate Connect

Collaborated with Utah Crime Victims Legal Clinic and Timpanogos Legal Center to host a monthly open forum for advocates.

**12 meetings from July 2023- June 2024**

**192 participants registered**

550

SWAVO Total Participants

73

Utah Victim Assistance Academy Participants

52

Presentations Given

14

New Organizations Contacted

5,348

Page Views on Concern Center

192

Advocate Connect Participants

30

State Funded Criminal Justice Advocates Trained and Supported





Through compassion and advocacy, UOVC empowers victims to reclaim their strength and find justice in the face of adversity.

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