

Victims Services Quarterly Conversation #27

April 9, 2025



DCJS

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

Victims Services Quarterly Conversations

- Held beginning of each quarter
- DCJS & VS announcements
- Grant program updates
- “Tools-You-Can-Use” & “Featured Resource”
- Occasional training topics
- ***NEW*** Quarterly Conversation Topic

~ Quarterly Conversation Topic ~

Be thinking...

Reflecting on 30 years since the enactment of Virginia's Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act, what are the **biggest improvements** you've seen in victim services during your career?

~ April 2025 ~



CELEBRATING THREE DECADES OF
**VICTIMS' RIGHTS
IN VIRGINIA**



**VIRGINIA CRIME
VICTIM & WITNESS
RIGHTS ACT**

30TH ANNIVERSARY

VSQC Tools-You-Can-Use

Tools for Strategic Planning

National Criminal Justice Association's Center for Justice Planning



www.ncja.org

Defining and Setting a Scope in Strategic Planning

What is Scope?

Scope is a way to set boundaries for a strategic plan and concretely determine the plan's goals, deadlines and deliverables. Setting a scope is a collaborative effort and should be done in partnership with your stakeholders.

An assessment of problems and proposed resolutions

+

an assessment of constraints

→

a reasonable, feasible scope.

https://www.ncja.org/files/ugd/d50015_77d4c9bf5f9d44d1aabc3a4aac372484.pdf

DCJS & Victims Services Team Announcements

State Fiscal Year 2026 State Budget Amendments

Of Note – Effective July 1, 2025

- Changes to *Code of Virginia* [Title 19.2, Chapter 1.2](#) (Physical Evidence Recovery Kits and Trace Evidence Collection Kits)
- Trace evidence collection kit “means any evidence collection kit supplied by the Department [of Forensic Science]... for use in collecting evidence from victims of strangulation during forensic medical examinations or... for use during death investigations to collect evidence from decedents who may be victims of strangulation.”
- Includes an option for anonymous trace evidence kits

Statewide Committees

- Are you interested in contributing to statewide efforts to respond to sexual and domestic violence and support survivors?
- Do you want your voice to be heard by state agency leaders, legislators, and others?
- Are you in a leadership role at a sexual and/or domestic violence agency?

If so, consider applying to become a member of:

**Virginia Advisory Committee on
Sexual and Domestic Violence**

and/or

**Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program
Professional Standards Committee**

Contact Kristina Vadas at 804-786-7802 or kristina.vadas@dcjs.virginia.gov

DCJS Victims Services Training

- Building Accessible Justice in Virginia: A Statewide Collaboration

<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/training-events/building-accessible-justice-virginia-statewide-collaboration>

- Prosecuting Cases Involving Victims with Developmental Disabilities: A Focus on Sexual Assault

<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/training-events/prosecuting-cases-involving-victims-developmental-disabilities-focus-sexual-assault>

- First Impressions Matter: Trauma-Informed Sexual Assault Response and Minimal Facts Interviewing

<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/training-events/first-impressions-matter-trauma-informed-sexual-assault-response-and-minimal-facts>

DCJS Victims Services Training

Online Grant Management Training Videos – 29 Modules Now Available!

Through the DCJS Learning Management System (LMS)

Log in or create a LMS account here:

<https://training.benchmarkonline.app/dcjs/signin>

VVAN Advocate Essentials Academy



2025 Advocate Essentials Academy

April 28, 2025 – May 2, 2025

VCU's L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs

700 West Grace Street
Richmond, VA 23284

<https://web.cvent.com/event/02f76fd9-f994-4b23-befc-edc8ee08aba7/summary>

Victims Crisis Assistance & Response Team (VCART)

- Our next Basic VCART Training will be May 6-8 in Williamsburg
- Posting is on the DCJS website
- Training series on trauma-informed care will be coming this year!
- To join VCART, contact Andrew Kinch (andrew.kinch@dcjs.virginia.gov)
- To request training, contact Dawn Bush (dawn.bush@dcjs.virginia.gov)

State Trafficking Response Team

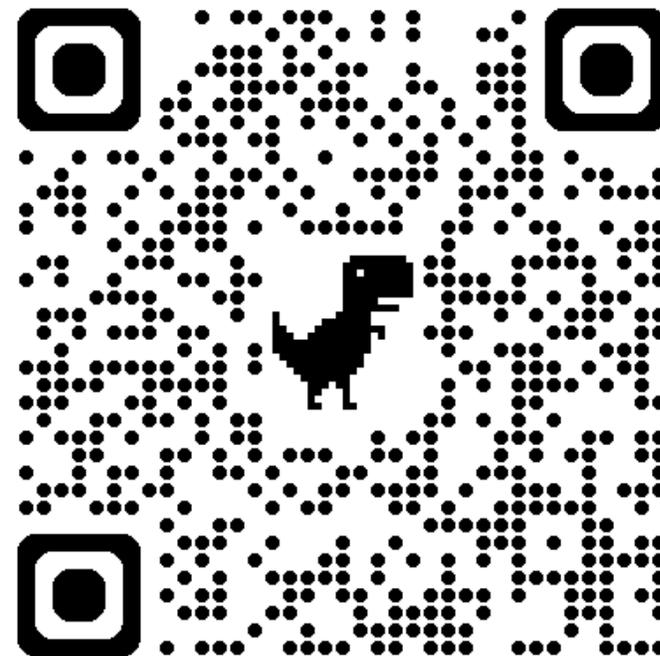
Upcoming Training

- **Sexual Exploitation Treatment and Training Services (SETTS)**
 - May 12-16 in Lynchburg - *Register Now!*
- **HT Identification for Criminal Justice & First Responders**
 - April 30 in Hanover, May 1 in Newport News, May 20 in Louisa - *Full*
 - May 21 in Salem - *Register Now!*
 - May 22 in Bristol - *Register Now!*

HT 101 e-module is now available in Spanish.

Webpage redesigned – Check it out!

Sign up for our mailing list for updates!



SDV Program Professional Standards

- The DCJS Professional Standards Team is currently evaluating applications filed in November of 2024.
- For those agencies reapplying for accreditation in 2025, stay tuned for details on our simplified application process!
- The next Professional Standards Committee meeting will be held virtually in May. If you are interested in attending, please let the DCJS Professional Standards Team know:
sdvstandards@dcjs.virginia.gov

Questions?



VSQC Featured Resource

DCJS Victims Services

Human Trafficking Response Team Webpage



Learn to Identify and Report Human Trafficking

Human Trafficking is happening in Virginia. Do you know the signs?

Explore our website and take the Human Trafficking 101 e-module to learn more about human trafficking in Virginia.

[TAKE COURSE HERE](#)

<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/human-trafficking-response-virginia>

History of Victims' Rights

1975

- The first “Victims’ Rights Week” is organized by the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office.
- The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) is formed.

1976

-  The Virginia General Assembly establishes the Task Force to Study Criminal Sexual Assault.
-  The Virginia General Assembly creates the Virginia Victims’ Compensation Program.
-  The first victim/witness program in Virginia is established in Portsmouth.

1977

- 🦋 The Charlottesville National Organization for Women (NOW) chapter holds a local NOW forum on battered women; the Charlottesville/Albemarle Task Force on Abused Women is founded.
- 🦋 The first domestic violence shelter in Virginia opens in Radford.
- 🦋 The Virginia Crime Victims' Compensation Program becomes effective.
- The National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards is established by the existing 22 state victims' compensation programs to promote the creation of a nationwide network of compensation programs.

1979

-  The Shelter for Help in Emergency (SHE) in Charlottesville opens.
-  Virginians Against Domestic Violence (VADV) is established.
-  The Hospital Protocol for the Treatment of Sexual Assault Victims is developed in Virginia.

1980

-  Rape Shield legislation is passed in Virginia.
-  There are 12 sexual assault crisis centers in Virginia.
-  Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault (VAASA) is established.
 - Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is founded after the death of 13-year-old Cari Lightner.

1981

- Ronald Reagan becomes the first President to proclaim National Crime Victims' Rights Week.
- The disappearance and murder of missing child, Adam Walsh, prompt a national campaign to raise public awareness about child abduction and enact laws to better protect children.
-  Preventative Health and Health Services (PHHS) funds, which support domestic violence shelters, are distributed in Virginia.

1983

- The federal Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is created to implement the recommendations from the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime.
- 🦋 Virginia is one of 12 states selected by NOVA to initiate a “state network system for Victim/Witness Programs.”
- Wisconsin passes the first Child Victim and Witness Bill of Rights.
- 🦋 The Virginia Family Violence Prevention Project is passed by General Assembly.

1984

-  The Virginia Network for Victims and Witnesses adopts bylaws and is officially established – Mandie Patterson serves as the first president of the Network until 1986.
-  Virginia Network members join Governor Chuck Robb as he declares Victims' Rights Week in Virginia in April.
-  Virginians Against Domestic Violence (VADV) hires a full-time director.
-  The Protective Order is created as a civil option in Virginia.
 - The passage of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) establishes the federal Crime Victims Fund to support state victims' compensation and victim services programs.
 - OVC establishes the National Victims Resource Center.

1986

- The federal Office for Victims of Crime awards the first grants to support state victims' compensation and assistance programs.
-  Marital rape and marital sexual assault laws are enacted in Virginia.
-  Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds are first distributed in Virginia.

1987

-  The Virginia State Crime Commission begins its three-year study of services provided to victims and witnesses of crime. Delegate Warren Stambaugh chairs the committee.
- The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence establishes the first national toll-free domestic violence hotline.

1989

-  The Victims Services Section (VSS) of DCJS becomes a separate section. The section is comprised of four members: Section Chief Mandie Patterson, John Mahoney, Tim Gladis, and Kathryn Malbon.

1990

-  The Virginia Crime Commission revises the Hospital Protocol for the Treatment of Sexual Assault Victims.
-  New State General Funds to support sexual assault crisis centers in Virginia is distributed.

1991

- Virginia Lieutenant Governor Donald Beyer establishes the Commission on Sexual Assault.
- The Virginia State Council of Higher Education establishes the Task Force on Campus Rape.
- Attorney General Mary Sue Terry establishes the Attorney General's Task Force on Domestic Violence. One of the major accomplishments of this Task Force is the stalking law enacted in 1992.
- A new criminal misdemeanor offense is created for assault and battery upon certain family and household members.

1993

- All 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, have passed anti-stalking laws.
-  The Statewide Family Violence Hotline begins operation.

1994

- President Clinton signs the Violence Against Women Act, which authorizes more than \$1 billion in funding for programs to combat violence against women.
- OVC establishes the Community Crisis Response Program.
-  The Virginia Commission on Family Violence is established.

1995

- 🦋 Virginia's Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act is enacted, sponsored by chief patron Delegate James F. Almand.
- 🦋 HB 1762, patroned by Delegate Howard Copeland, establishes the Virginia Crime Victim-Witness Fund, which provides financial support for victim/witness programs statewide.
 - The National Victim Assistance Academy in Washington D.C. graduates its first class.
 - Parole is abolished in Virginia for any offender who commits a felony on or after January 1, 1995. Such an offender is not eligible for parole and will serve at least 85 percent of his or her prison sentence.
- 🦋 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funds first distributed (known as VSTOP).

**Patrons of the Virginia Crime Victims'
Bill of Rights Legislation passed in 1995
HB 2257 Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act**

SENATE PATRONS

The Hon. Robert L. Calhoun
The Hon. Charles J. Colgan
The Hon. Elmo G. Cross, Jr.
The Hon. Mark L. Earley
The Hon. Clarence A. Holland
The Hon. Edward M. Holland
The Hon. R. Edward Houck
The Hon. Janet D. Howell
The Hon. Henry L. Marsh, III
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The Hon. Charles L. Waddell

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The Hon. Franklin P. Hall	The Hon. Marian Van Landingham
The Hon. William J. Howell	The Hon. Clifton A. Woodrum

~ Quarterly Conversation Topic ~

Reflecting on 30 years since the enactment of Virginia's Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act, what are the **biggest improvements** you've seen in victim services during your career?

Victims Services Grant Program Updates

State General Funds Memo

The 2025 State Fiscal Year will close on June 30, 2025.

After June 30th, any remaining State General Funds on your grant will enter the re-appropriation process, which includes review and approval by the Department of Planning and Budget and become unavailable for drawdown for several months.

In order to avoid the re-appropriation process, any requests for remaining State General Funds will need to be submitted in **OGMS by May 15, 2025.**

*For more information, check your email/refer to OGMS Alerts.

Managing Your Grants

- OGMS Registration
 - Alerts
 - Grantee Contacts
 - Security Updates
- Grant Components
- Correspondence
- Encumbrances
- Contract Amendments
- Status Reports
- Claims

Managing Your Grants: Resources

- OGMS Training & Resources:

<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/grants/ogms-training-resources>

- For videos, guides, sample forms, policies, documents:

<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/victims-services/grant-management-resources>

- For tips on effective and efficient grant management:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oS1c7101XO8>

- For questions regarding your DCJS grant, contact your assigned grant monitor using OGMS Correspondence.

Monthly Grantee Orientation

Victims Services Grant Management Orientation Sessions
2nd Friday of Each Month

Next Session:

Friday, April 11, 2025, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Register at:

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_vV3mLCSxTq2Icsftlm1RPA

VS VOCA-Supported Grants

- 1. Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) (competitive)**
- 2. VSGP for Sexual and Domestic Violence (non-competitive)**

For both grant programs:

- 3rd quarter financial and status reports are due 4/15/25.
- For VSGP grants funded with state general funds, see memo about the process to request state general funds from 3/28/25.
- Continuation funding for SFY 2026:
 - Grant applications are under review.
 - DCJS will request changes if needed.
 - DCJS will make recommendations for level funding to the Criminal Justice Services Board in May.

VS VOCA-Supported Grants

3. Victim Witness Grant Program (VWGP)

- 3rd quarter financial and status reports are due 4/15/25.
- DCJS will soon release guidance on applying for SFY 2026 continuation funding.
- Continue to forward VSDCS technical assistance and enhancement requests to VictimsServicesTA@dcjs.virginia.gov.

VS VAWA-Supported Grants

4. Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)

- CY 2024 status reports are submitted and approved. Thank you all for patience and hard work submitting them in the new system.
- CY 2025 grants are underway! 1st quarter status reports are due in OGMS 4/15/25. Quarterly status reports are **NEW** in 2025.
- DCJS is awaiting news from OVW on Virginia's FFY 2025 SASP award.

VS VAWA-Supported Grants

5. Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution (VSTOP)

- VSTOP Annual Subgrantee Performance Reports were submitted to our federal partners on 3/27/25 for review and analysis. Thank you!
- Quarterly financial reports are due 4/15/25.
- CY 2025 Biannual Reports will be due 7/15/25 in OGMS. You will complete the fillable PDF and upload it into OGMS.
 - ***This report will reflect work from 1/1/2025-6/30/2025.***

Other Funding Sources

6. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) VSGP Restoration

- 3rd quarter financial reports and status reports are due 4/15/25.
- Reminder: this is the last year of ARPA funding; the grant program ends 6/30/25.

7. Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF)

- 3rd quarter status and financial reports are due on 4/15/25. Grantees should follow their usual reporting process.
- SFY 2026 VSDVVF Continuation Funding Opportunity #**549304** opened on 3/17/25.
 - ***Applications are due in OGMS on 4/14/2025 at 5:00PM. Late applications will not be accepted.***

Questions?

