VICTIMS FOR JUSTICE

2026 Annual Report

7/1/2025-6/30/2026

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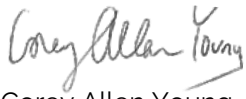
MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

It is my honor to serve as the Board President of Victims for Justice. Every day, we are committed to ensuring that Alaskans affected by violent crime receive the compassion, advocacy, resources, and support they need as they navigate the path toward healing and justice.

Our mission is simple but urgent: to amplify the voices of survivors, foster healing, and bring hope to individuals, families, and communities impacted by violent crime. The stories and accomplishments shared throughout this report are a testament to the resilience of survivors and the unwavering commitment of our remarkable staff, volunteers, board members, donors, and community partners.

As you read these pages, I hope you see not only the impact of our work, but also the incredible difference that is possible when a community comes together to support those in need. Your partnership makes this mission possible, and because of your generosity and commitment, more survivors are finding hope, healing, and a path forward every day.

Warm regards,



Corey Allen Young
VFJ Board President



VICTIMS FOR JUSTICE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Corey Allen Young, Board President
Jason Herr, Board Vice President
Chief Sean Case, Board Treasurer
Treece Hanley, Board Secretary
Mariajose Echeverria, Board Director
Jennifer Veneklasen, Board Director
Tyler Hasbrouck, Board Director
May Stokes, Board Director

OUR STAFF

Suki Miller, Executive Director
Liz Bolling, Office Manager
Dulce Camacho, Communications & Development Specialist
Mattisyn Maloy, Lead Advocate
Asia Solis, Victim Advocate
Shania Hernandez, Victim Advocate
Ashley Paulsen, Victim Advocate

OUR MISSION *IS TO SUPPORT AND ADVOCATE FOR ALASKANS AFFECTED BY VIOLENT CRIME.*

OUR VISION *IS TO GIVE ALASKANS AFFECTED BY VIOLENT CRIME A VOICE AND ABILITY TO ELICIT POSITIVE CHANGE.*

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

This year, Victims For Justice continued to strengthen our services and support victims throughout Alaska. In alignment with our strategic plan, we became fully staffed with the addition of a new victim advocate and continued improving our processes to ensure each victim receives compassionate, consistent care every step of the way.

Over the past year, VFJ provided 4,534 services to 233 clients across 24 Alaska communities, including 816 court accompaniment services, 31 victim impact statement assistance services, and more than $25,000 in direct financial assistance to victims and their families.

We were also honored to host this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week events, including our annual Ceremony of Remembrance and Victim Service Awards. The remarkable award recipients exemplify the dedication and compassion found throughout Alaska's victim services community, and we encourage you to learn more about their inspiring work through the videos available on our website.

We were also pleased to see HB 239 become law, thanks to the collective efforts of legislators, advocates, and supporters committed to advancing victims' rights in Alaska.

This year also brought unique challenges to some of our very first clients who turned to us for support. As individuals who committed violent crimes in the 1980s undergo resentencing hearings and, in some cases, are released, many victims have found themselves drawn back into the court process and forced to revisit some of the most difficult moments of their lives. We are humbled by their courage and resilience, and we remain committed to standing beside them with empathy, care, and unwavering support.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission. Together, we are ensuring that victims are heard, supported, and empowered.

Warmly,

Suki Miller

Suki Miller
Executive Director




VICTIMS FOR JUSTICE


VICTIMS FOR JUSTICE


Bus Pass
A Little Something To Help








Family Fall Festival






advocating for Alaskans

ADVOCATE HIGHLIGHT

Being a victim advocate means being a source of support during some of the most difficult times in a person's life. Every experience we encounter is different and one of the most important aspects of our role is being able to meet each individual where they are emotionally without judgment or expectations. It is also more than just providing resources or guiding them through a difficult process. As advocates, our responsibilities help others feel heard, believed in and empowered. It is important for us to help people feel grounded especially in a system that makes them feel like they've lost control.

As a victim advocate, no days are ever the same which makes this role much more valuable. While one day can involve case notes, follow up emails and documentation, the next can require emotional support, crisis calls and trial days. Nonetheless, it's important for every interaction to be met with compassion, patience, and the ability to adapt in an environment that can change in an instant.

One of the greatest challenges of being a victim advocate is setting aside personal emotions in order to be a dependable pillar of support for a client in need. Advocates are often exposed to various traumas, crises, and grief and sometimes I have found it quite difficult to maintain professional boundaries and not carry home the pain of what a client has experienced. I've come to learn that being professional does not mean having to be uncaring or detached; instead, prioritizing self-care, having a strong support system and taking the time to rest can help prevent emotional exhaustion and effectively show up for the clients I serve.



At the end of each day, I am reminded that being a victim advocate does not mean having to know all the answers. Many of the people we meet have experienced a trauma that has affected every aspect of their lives, and it can be challenging to always want to find the correct way to provide support. However, knowing that even the smallest acts of kindness and support have made somebody feel safe, more informed or less alone is what makes this work the most rewarding. This work has taught me the importance and meaning of empathy, resilience and human connection. Although I cannot erase what a person has gone through, I can help provide the tools an individual needs to navigate next steps and take back their own lives. Not only does being a victim advocate come with significant responsibility, it also comes with the honor and privilege to walk alongside survivors as they move forward and witness the strength they demonstrate every day.

-by Shania Hernandez

DATA BREAKDOWN

Victims For Justice is an independent non-profit working to ensure Alaskans affected by violent crime get the support they need and deserve. We provide long-term care as victims cope with trauma and grief while navigating the criminal justice process. This past year we served:

233 CLIENTS

PROVIDED **4,534** SERVICES

LENGTH OF TIME SINCE STARTING SERVICES

47%

Receiving services for a year or less

55%

Receiving services for over a year



24 COMMUNITIES

***12%** OUT OF ALASKA



***What does 12% out of Alaska mean?**
While VFJ primarily provides services to victims of violent crime within Alaska, there are instances when victims or their surviving loved ones move or live outside the state. When the crime and court process take place in Alaska, we continue to offer services, no matter where they are located. VFJ has specialized knowledge of the Alaska court system, state and local resources, various law enforcement entities, and the unique geographical and historical nature of our state. If an Alaskan resident becomes a crime victim in another state, we do our best to refer them to an organization familiar with the legal process in that jurisdiction.

VICTIMS FOR JUSTICE

OUR SERVICES ARE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL

One of our key services is to educate victims about their rights within the judicial system. We help to facilitate communication with law enforcement and prosecutors to ensure that victims feel supported and empowered to voice their questions and concerns. Through collaboration with and support of community partners, we provide essential services, re-direct adverse outcomes and improve the well-being of Alaskans. This is, and always will be, our ongoing commitment to our community.

Emotional Support

11 JOINED SUPPORT GROUP

141 INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING PROVIDED

Criminal Justice System Advocacy

816 HEARINGS ATTENDED

31 ASSISTED VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

Financial Support

$25,982.39 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

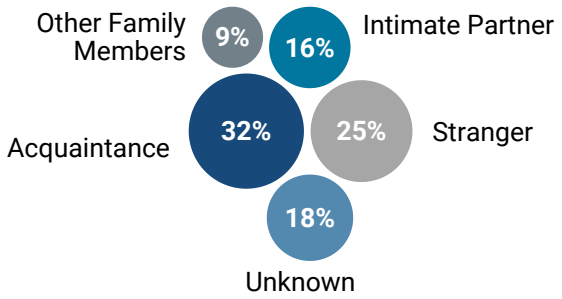
**Includes Mental Health Trust*

67 VIOLENT CRIMES COMPENSATION BOARD APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

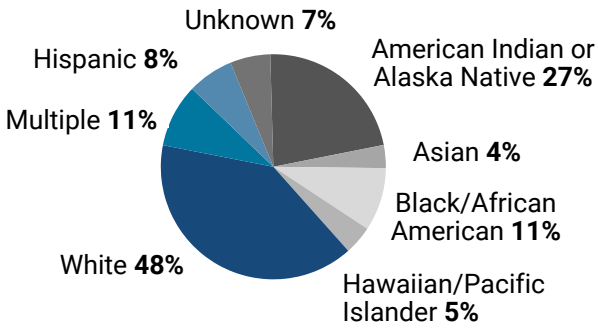


Victims For Justice is the only program in Alaska that specializes in helping victims of violent crime such as: assault, robbery, arson, drunk driving, and surviving family members of homicide victims. We assists clients in the aftermath of a crime, by providing concrete support like rental assistance and relocation, emotional supported, and court accompaniment throughout criminal proceedings.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OFFENDER & VICTIM



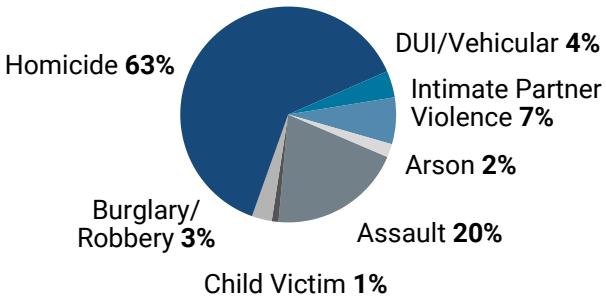
RACE/ETHNICITY



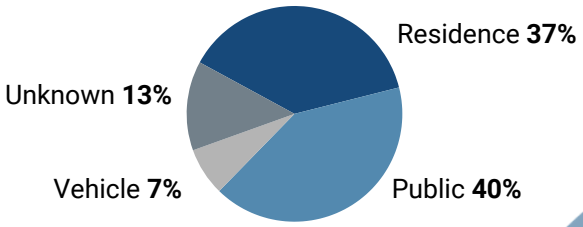
GENDER:



CRIME TYPE



LOCATION OF CRIME



30% Children in the home

COMMUNITY FOCUSED

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK (NCVRW)

During National Crime Victims' Rights Week, we come together to honor and remember victims of crime. This year, from April 19-25, 2026, the theme was ***Listen. Act. Advocate. Protect victims, serve communities***. Throughout this week, we hosted two events: the Ceremony of Remembrance and the Victims Service Awards.

Ceremony of Remembrance: Also known as the Tree Ceremony, opens NCVRW and honors those affected by violent crime. Victims' families, law enforcement agencies, victim service providers, legal professionals, and community members come together to remember Alaskans whose lives have been forever changed by violence.

Attendees are invited to tie colored ribbons on tree branches, each color representing one of eleven types of violent crime. The ribbons symbolize the individuals or loved ones who have been impacted. This year, we received **71 ribbon requests** from those unable to attend in person, and our VFJ advocated hung these ribbons on their behalf. Watch event **HERE**.

Victim Service Awards: This event celebrates the individuals, programs, teams, and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding commitment to supporting victims and enhancing victim services. Award recipients are chosen from public nominations across six categories, recognizing their vision, action, and leadership in improving the lives of victims in the aftermath of crime.

We congratulate the Victims Service Award recipients and thank them, for demonstrating resilience, for providing outstanding service to crime victims, and for helping to prevent other people from being victimized in the future. The 2026 Recipients Video can be found **HERE**.




















Victim Service Awards

HOMICIDE MEMORIAL

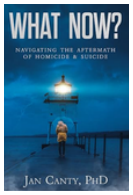
This memorial serves as a remembrance of victims of homicide throughout Alaska, and a symbol of hope and community for the families and friends who have lost loved ones to violent crime.

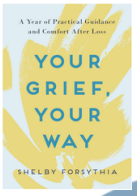
We are grateful to Corvus Designs, who thoughtfully designed this space and assists us in engraving new names each year. We also thank Anchorage Parks and Recreation for maintaining the area and planting beautiful flowers annually.

On July 2026, Corvus Designs added 13 more names, bringing the **total to 571 names** engraved on the Homicide Memorial. A recording of the event, along with the 2026 Location and Guide Book, can be found **HERE.**

HOMICIDE GRIEF GROUP

Surviving family members of homicide victims have legal rights in Alaska and they often need assistance accessing those rights and navigating the criminal justice system. Going through an investigation and a trial causes survivors to re-live painful memories and feelings. Intense media attention can be trying, and, when there is no media coverage at all, it may seem that the victim is forgotten. Survivors may have to cope with issues of parole and release of the offender for years to come.







Healing often begins by talking about what happened with trusted people who provide support without being judgmental or giving unwanted advice about what survivors should do or feel. Talking with other homicide survivors may help you feel better understood and less alone. If you or a loved one would like to join our Monthly Homicide Grief Group please visit our website for more information.

This year, we launched our VFJ Book of the Month. Every other month we select a grief related book that offers tools, guidance, and encouragment. These books are provided free of charge to our clients as an additional source of support.

GRANT FUNDERS

VFJ is a recipient of Anchorage Municipal Alcohol tax funding. We thank the community for continuing to support this tax and the Anchorage Assembly for sustaining these targeted investments to reduce and prevent the issues that harm our community most: violence and abuse, mental health crises, substance misuse and homelessness. Other municipal grant funding includes the Alaska Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Intervention Project (ADVSAIP).

VFJ is also a grantee of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA), a Council within the Alaska Department of Public Safety, that distributes Alaska General Fund dollars and federal VOCA pass-through funding. VOCA funds provide financial support to state and local agencies that offer services to crime victims. This fund is a U.S. Treasury account generated entirely by the fines and penalties levied against criminals convicted of federal crimes.

In addition to these grants, generous donations from the community play a vital role in sustaining our programs and services. This combined support enables us to continue our mission of advocating for and assisting victims of violent crimes.

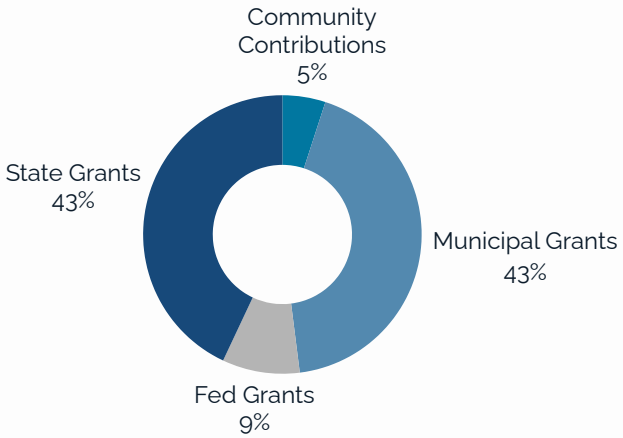
SPONSORS

ConocoPhillips Alaska
Credit Union 1
Alaska Airlines
Carrs Safeway
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
Alaska Railroad
YUIT Comms
Moose's Tooth · Bear Tooth · Broken Tooth · Eye Tooth

VICTIMS FOR JUSTICE

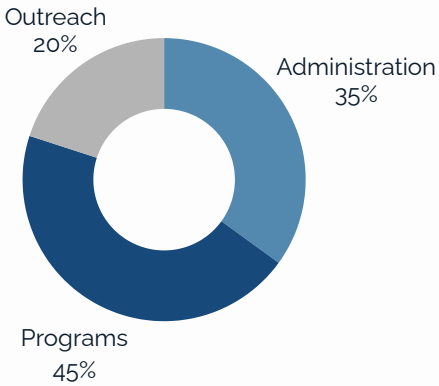
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

TAX ID 92-0110889



- Community Contributions 5%
- Municipal Grants 43%
- State Grants 43%
- Fed Grants 9%

REVENUE $663,710



- Administration 35%
- Programs 45%
- Outreach 20%

EXPENSES $670,138.25

VICTIMS FOR JUSTICE

DONORS & SUPPORTERS

Abigail Hanley
Adriene Active
Alaska Center for Spiritual Living
Alice Skillern
Alison Stankus
Amairani Rea-villa
Anastasia Giannulis
Andre Horton
Andrew Harrington
Angelica Rosales
Anne Fleming
Blaze Bell-Erickson
Bosco's
Brandon Geller
Brian Perkins
Brittani Clancey
Cameron Compton
Carol Pope
Carrie Urena
Chaz Sample
Correy Allen Young*
Courtney Shannon
David Camacho
Debbie Graham
Dennis Morner
Devon White
Donald Fleming
Edith Goodyear
Emil Hampton
Gail A. & Jan. K Sieberts
Geran Tarr
Hamed Diawara
Hoyt Skillern
Jason Herr*
Jeffrey Trent
Jenelle & Dan Sullivan
Jennifer Veneklasen*
Jim Palmer
Joe Chaszar
Jon Denardi
Josephine Borenin-Shangin
Kari Atwood
Kathleen A. Bugbee
Kathryn Russell
Keith Thayer
Kelly Stewart
Kristy Grimaldi
L. Diane Casto
Lauren Craft
Liza Illuzzi
Loren Hulen
Lynndeen Knapp
Manfried Forrest West
Margret Calica
Mariajose Echeverria-Stewart*
Marrissa Hartman
Matt Heilala
May Stokes*
Michael Shaffer
Moira Gallagher
Mygina McAboy
Nicole Boswell
Pat Jarrett
Patrick Bernhardt
Peter Briggs
Phylicia Christian
Portia C. Babcock
Racheal Turner
Ralph Samuels
Rebecca Hauser
Robyn Langlie
Rosco Hampton
Ryan Sheldon
Sam Friedman
Sasha Jordan
Sean Case*
Shanelle Fo
Sharisse Stroud
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Starlight Designs LLC
Susan Bremner
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Teresa Brummer
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Thomas Moore
Treece Hanley*
Tristyn Meath
Tyann Hollis
Tyler Hasbrouck*
Veronica Lambertsen
Zonta Yellow Rose Foundation

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