

VICTIM/WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Component: 40.20.101, 40.20.161, 40.20.451

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Victim/Witness (V/W) Assistance Program is designed to provide comprehensive services to victims/witnesses of violent crime, pursuant to California Penal Code §13835, in each of California's 58 counties. Mandated services include: crisis intervention, emergency assistance, resource and referral assistance, direct counseling/therapy, assistance with filing victim compensation claims, property return, orientation to the criminal justice system, court escort, presentations and training for Criminal Justice Agencies, public presentations/publicity, case status/case disposition, notification of family/friends, employer notification/intervention, and restitution upon request. In addition, the following optional services not required by law are provided as resources allow: employer intervention, creditor intervention, witness notification for V/W cases only, funeral arrangements, and temporary restraining order assistance.

The major objective of the V/W Program is the establishment of Victim/Witness Centers focusing on trauma-informed, culturally sensitive service delivery to all victims of violent crime.

FUNDS AWARDED

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Types of Funding</u>	<u>Total Funding</u>
FY 2014/15	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY12	\$ 131,286
	VOCA FFY13	\$ 914,382
	VAWA FFY14	\$ 422,153
	Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) FFY12	\$ 50,163
	VOCA FFY14	\$ 9,660,874
	Victim/Witness Assistance (VWA) FFY14	\$ 10,821,310
FY 2015/16	VAWA FFY15	\$ 512,200
	VOCA FFY15	\$ 12,095,632
	VWA FFY15	\$ 10,827,154
FY 2016/17	Unknown	

2014/15 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS

- 173,602 New victims of crime served.
- 3,178 New witnesses of crime served.
- 81,362 Crisis intervention services provided to victims of crime.
- 5,179 Victims provided emergency assistance services, in response to a victim's immediate needs as a result of their victimization.

<u>110,881</u>	Resource and referral assistance services, in-person, letter or telephone contact provided to victims, based on the victim's request or victim advocate's assessment.
<u>213,216</u>	Follow-up assistance services, in-person, letter or telephone contact, provided to victims, based on the victim's need or victim advocate's assessment.
<u>68,497</u>	Direct counseling services, in-person or by telephone, provided to a crime victim. V/W Center staff makes referrals, if necessary, to other appropriate resources for client(s) having professional counseling needs. Direct Counseling/Therapy refers to intensive professional psychological and/or psychiatric treatment for individuals, couples and family members related to counseling to provide emotional support in crisis arising from the occurrence of crime. This includes the evaluation of mental health needs, as well as the actual psychotherapy.
<u>28,559</u>	The number of victims' crime victim compensation claims filed with CalVCP.
<u>1,704</u>	Upon request by the victim, assist in obtaining the return of property held as evidence by the criminal justice system. In cases where property cannot be returned, provide an explanation to the victim or family member.
<u>213,216</u>	Provide victims' in-person, letter, or telephone information with an orientation to the criminal justice system, including its location, procedures and functions.
<u>31,824</u>	Victims provided information on the case and/or support/escort during court appearances or interviews with law enforcement and prosecution.
<u>396</u>	Presentations and training courses conducted for criminal justice agencies on V/W Center resources and the rights and needs of victims.
<u>975</u>	Public presentations and publicity provided by V/W Centers promoting awareness of available services for crime victims.
<u>181,734</u>	Victims provided case status/case disposition, upon request, as their case progressed through the criminal justice system.
<u>9,172</u>	Notification of family/friends provided by V/W Centers, upon request of the victim, of the occurrence of a crime and the victim's condition as a result of the crime.
<u>387</u>	Employer notification/intervention services provided by V/W Centers, upon request of the victim.
<u>35,920</u>	Assistance given, upon the request of the victim, in obtaining restitution for the victim through the criminal justice system (Imposition of the sentence).
<u>1,101</u>	Creditor notification/intervention services provided by V/W Centers, upon request of the victim.
<u>527</u>	Assist with temporary arrangements for childcare while victim is appearing in court, meeting with prosecution or law enforcement officials.
<u>9,618</u>	Notification of cancellations or changes in scheduled court appearances for victims who are also witnesses.

<u>956</u>	Assist members of deceased victims with funeral/burial arrangements upon request.
<u>26,377</u>	Make available crime prevention information to victims and others.
<u>19,923</u>	Assist victims in obtaining temporary restraining orders.
<u>2,005</u>	Assist with arranging or providing transportation to court or other criminal justice system appointments/appearances.
<u>13,217</u>	Provide victims a waiting area during court proceedings separate from defendants, or family/friends of defendants.

Major Crime Types

<u>8,706</u>	Survivors of Homicide Victims
<u>10,101</u>	Robbery
<u>5,673</u>	Adult Sexual Assault
<u>439</u>	Adults Molested as Children
<u>27,106</u>	Assault
<u>20,380</u>	Child Sexual Abuse
<u>5,931</u>	Child Physical Abuse
<u>51,764</u>	Domestic Violence
<u>2,309</u>	Elder Abuse
<u>4,050</u>	DUI/DWI (With Injuries or Death)

2015/16 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS

Not Available

2016/17 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS

Not Applicable