



# PUT VICTIMS FIRST VA

**We have an emergency in Virginia.**  
**Local organizations providing life-saving services**  
**for victims of crime are in serious crisis.**

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## WHAT DOES A VICTIMS' SERVICES CRISIS LOOK LIKE?

- A domestic violence victim seeking safety is unable to find emergency shelter because there are no available beds.
  - A trafficked child who needs a forensic exam has to travel two counties over for the nearest services.
  - An emergency hotline that was previously available 24/7 now only operates weekdays from 9am-5pm.
  - A sexual assault victim who needs trauma counseling is put on a 3-month waiting list for the services they need.
  - A prosecutor who needs testimony for their case but no Victim-Witness Advocate is available to help.
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**This is happening already in Virginia**  
**and it will only get worse if we don't act now.**

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## HOW DID WE GET HERE? 3 MAJOR REASONS:

1. Ongoing and drastic cuts in federal VOCA and TANF funding, while pandemic era relief funding comes to an end.
2. Decades of inadequate state funding for these services.
3. An unprecedented increase in victims needing crisis services and shelter.

## HOW DO WE FIX IT? VIRGINIA MUST STEP UP AND PUT VICTIMS FIRST.

**An initial investment of \$30M a year is urgently needed to keep essential services for victims available and the organizations that provide them afloat.**

- \$7.5M (25%) for Virginia's 71 local sexual and domestic violence agencies
- \$7.5M (25%) for Virginia's 114 victim-witness assistance programs
- \$6M (20%) for Virginia's 26 child-advocacy centers and satellite locations
- \$4.5M (15%) for other victim services programs funded by DCJS
- \$3M (10%) for statewide hotlines and victim information lines
- \$1.5M (5%) to DCJS for the administration of these funds.

# PUT VICTIMS FIRST VA

**An all-encompassing and integrative statewide fund that ensures all victims of crime can access the services they need.**

## CAMPAIGN PARTNERS



### VIRGINIA SEXUAL & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION ALLIANCE

advocating for the needs of survivors of sexual and domestic violence and Virginia's 70+ Sexual & Domestic Violence Agencies that serve over 100,000 people annually.



### VIRGINIA VICTIM ASSISTANCE NETWORK

advocating for the needs of crime victims and victim assistance professionals who serve over 75,000 victims of crime annually.



### CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS OF VIRGINIA

helping local communities respond to child maltreatment in ways that are effective and efficient and ensuring that the child victim's needs are met.

**For more information, contact Jonathan Yglesias at [jyglesias@vsdvalliance.org](mailto:jyglesias@vsdvalliance.org)**