

Save Lives. Save ODSVS in the DOJ Budget.

Why Support?

Fully Fund Domestic and Sexual Violence Services: HB 5022 outlines the 2009-2011 Department of Justice budget, including the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund (ODSVS). ODSVS is already underfunded at \$4.5 million. The Governor's proposed budget includes a 10% cut to ODSVS.

ODSVS provides core public safety services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Funds are used in every county in Oregon. ODSVS is the *only source of general fund money* to support these life-saving services and prevention efforts.

The Need is Great

Domestic and sexual violence are a widespread problem throughout the state.

- Each year, between 18 and 27 Oregonians are killed as a result of domestic violence.
- One in six Oregon women has survived forcible rape.
- At least one in 10 Oregon women age 20-55 has been physically or sexually assaulted *in the last 5 years*.
- More than one-third of domestic violence assaults are witnessed by children.
- Almost half (48%) of women seeking shelter had at least one child with them.

Services are already underfunded.

- In 2007, there were 17,236 requests for emergency shelter that could not be met because resources were underfunded.

The recession makes ODSVS funds more important.

- The rate of violence against women increases as the rate of male unemployment increases.
- Programs won't be able to rely on individual donations to make up the cuts to ODSVS.
- Cuts to ODSVS will increase homelessness, unemployment, substance abuse, and medical and mental health costs.

Key Facts

ODSVS funds:

- Emergency shelter and assistance.
- Counseling, support, and information referral.
- Individualized safety planning.
- Outreach to underserved victims.
- Comprehensive advocacy for long-term safety.

ODSVS funds also:

- Reduce homelessness.
- Help survivors stay in jobs.
- Increase effectiveness of substance abuse programs.
- Save millions in medical and mental health costs.
- Increase child success in school.
- Reduce the incidence/severity of re-assault by 60-70%.

Support ODSVS in HB 5022

Oregon's "net savings" by cutting ODSVS would be small, while the costs would be enormous.

"I would not be alive today if Klamath Crisis Center was not there."

Survivor in Klamath Falls area

"Many of these services up front pay off **BIG** later in law enforcement, courts, & in the safety of our communities & livability of our state."

Lincoln City domestic violence advocate

"One in six Oregon women is the victim of rape; including myself, my mother, my sister, and most of my friends."

Survivor in Portland

"Please give this your utmost consideration. I have 5 young granddaughters and would like assurance that they will be protected from rape and domestic violence. This also goes for my grandsons."

Grandmother in Salem

"I have 2 adult daughters – both have experienced violence – **never** let anyone be turned away from a shelter."

Mother in Eugene

"I've been abused for over 14 years and have lived in fear."

Survivor from Southern Oregon