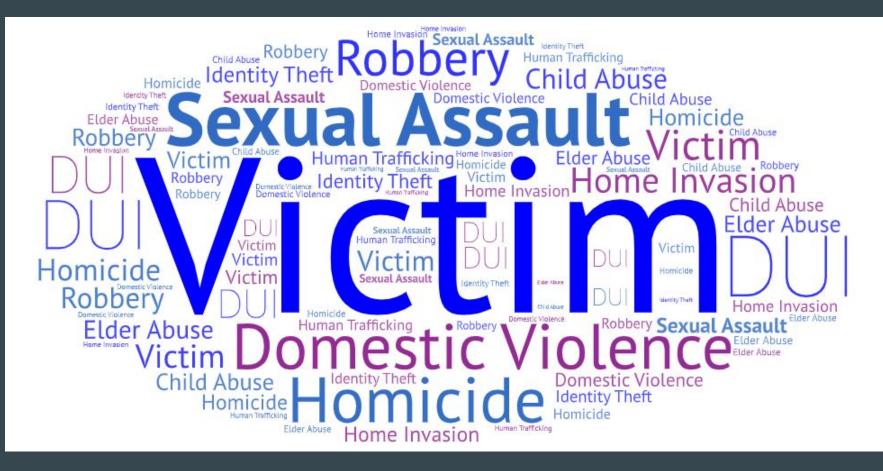
Judiciary Interim Committee Victim Services Report

Overview with focus on Sexual Assault Survivor Services

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Victim Services Landscape



Data/Reports

- Update on status of Victim Services Commission comprehensive victim services assessment study. As of 9/16/2024 the winning contract has been finalized and sent for signature. The contract currently remains under confidentiality mandate, but the winner to be announced shortly.
- 2022 <u>Utah Criminal Justice Center Victim Needs Assessment</u> a survey and interviews conducted by the University of Utah to victims and service providers.
- 2022 <u>Summary of Victim Services Listening Sessions</u> a UOVC project and report of additional input regarding the UCJC Victims Needs Assessment
- 2022 <u>Utah Victim Services Overview Report</u> an information gathering report from a collaborative effort by the state coalitions, DHHS, CJC, UOVC, etc.
- 2021 <u>Utah's Victims Services: Developing a Well-defined and Meaningful Evaluation Framework</u>- a project commissioned by UOVC with the University of Utah Economic Evaluation Unit to produce research for a more evidence based framework with guidelines for investment decisions and service delivery.
- 2017 <u>Sexual Assault Demonstration Initiative Final Report</u> -The Sexual Assault Demonstration Initiative (SADI) was funded by the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) to enhance sexual assault outreach, services, and community partnerships in dual/multi-service programs.

Challenges in Supporting Survivors with State and Federal Funding

- Short time frame to plan, allocate, and award funds
- Funding formulas vs. competitive awards
- Multiple funding sources with multiple requirements
- Challenges specific to sexual assault funds
- Reporting and receiving outcomes
- Unpredictability of award amounts
- One-time vs. ongoing funding
- Administrative responsibilities
- Funding can be restrictive

Rape Crisis Center Standards of Care

- Standards of Care for Rape
 Crisis Programs
 - o 24-hour Crisis Hotline
 - Crisis intervention
 - Accompaniment to hospitals, law enforcement agencies, prosecution offices, and courts
 - Advocacy
 - Public Education



Gaps in the Availability of Sexual Assault Survivor Services

- Lack of funding for prevention and awareness of resources
- Lack of ongoing support for sexual assault services
- Sexual Assault Helpline

Opportunities for Improving the Efficiency of Serving Survivors

- Fund the Sexual Assault Helpline
- Fund FEMR
- Fund prevention efforts
- Fund Victim Rights Committee Coordinator position to support committees and collect data as to failings in the system and inform need for change
- Incorporate Standards of Care on a statewide level (case examples)
- Incentivize programs to evaluate effectiveness
- Fund development of centralized reporting system for victim services programs with a public facing dashboard to demonstrate how funding is spent
- Incentivize better coordination and communication between agencies

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