Comprehensive Victim Service Campus Expansion

Social Services

Requester Information

Legislator Name: Balderree, Heidi

Created Date: January 29th 2026 **Submitted Date:** January 29th 2026

Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

The requested $7.5 million will help construct a new victim services campus in Utah County, including a larger domestic violence safehouse, a victim advocacy center, and transitional housing. The expansion will increase capacity from 25 beds up to 138 beds, filling the gap in need for additional safe shelter and trauma-informed services while allowing for future growth. The current safehouse and rape crisis center facilities have not expanded at the same rate as the growing population, and last year alone 451 safehouse requests went unmet due to limited capacity. The new campus will provide comprehensive services to prevent domestic violence related homelessness and provide safety and stability.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Ashlee Taylor

Organization: The Refuge Utah

Position: Executive Director

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Personnel Services	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
In-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Out-of-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Technology Purchases	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $7,500,000.00	$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	**$7,500,000.00**	**$0.00**

Funding Sources:

General Fund

Amount Requested:

2026 (One-time)	$0.00
2027 (One-time)	$7,500,000.00
2027 (Ongoing)	$0.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	**$7,500,000.00**	**$0.00**

Is this a multi-year project?

Yes

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

The project can be scaled by the phasing development across its three components: safehouse, victim advocacy center, and transitional housing; allowing funding to be applied to individual elements or the full project. Each component is designed to function independently while still contributing to a comprehensive continuum of care.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Health and Wellbeing

Agency:

250 / Department of Health and Human Services

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

Private Not for Profit

Grant recipient

Yes

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient

The Refuge Utah

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

Survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and their children, including those experiencing homelessness due to domestic violence, the leading cause of homelessness in Utah County. The expanded facility will increase capacity, reducing unmet requests for safe temporary housing, and supporting law enforcement with a safe place to refer high-risk survivors identified through Lethality Assessment Protocols.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

This transformative facility will serve approximately 2,000 survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and their dependents annually, by providing trauma-informed, service-based support. Services include transitional and temporary housing, case management, mental health treatment, crisis intervention, childcare, education, and employment assistance. These services fill a critical gap for emergency services and support long-term healing and stability.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

The Legislature will be able to measure success by tracking the increase in the number of survivors and dependents served annually and the decrease in the number of individuals turned away due to capacity limits. These metrics will demonstrate that the expanded facility is improving access to services and reducing unmet need.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

Full Time Employees

0