
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS of CALIFORNIA
a program of CALICO


Cast
COALITION TO ABOLISH SLAVERY & TRAFFICKING


CRDV network
LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER


the LGBTQ center long beach


CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Together, We're Stronger.


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LAAC
Legal Aid Association of California


3 strands
GLOBAL FOUNDATION
3sgf.org


AWBW
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A WINDOW BETWEEN WORLDS


ABRAZAR
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A Safe Place


ALLIANCE
FOR COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATIONS


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serving survivors of sexual violence since 1971


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Bill Wilson Center


California Coalition for Youth
40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY




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NURTURE. HEAL. RENEW.


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California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Association


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JUSTICE FOR ALL


CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S LAW CENTER
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CALIFORNIA VICTIMS RESOURCE CENTER


aad


CCVAA
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CEJC
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CRLA


CATALYST


CENTER FOR DOMESTIC PEACE
Working Together to End Domestic Violence


CFJN
California Family Justice Network


Center for Community Solutions
Hope, Healing and Prevention


CALIFORNIANS FOR SAFETY AND JUSTICE


CASA de ESPERANZA
HOUSE OF HOPE


Center For Hope & Strength
Individual & Group Therapeutic Services


CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF VENTURA COUNTY


Center for Family Strengthening
Our programs ensure strong families are a community priority.
Child Advocacy Center CAC
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
Link
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Serving San Luis Obispo County
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www.cfsslo.org
805.439.1994


CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF THE EASTERN SIERRA


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JUSTICE COALITION


serving since 1977
Central California
Family Crisis Center
HOTLINE (559) 784-0192


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NURTURING CHANGE TOGETHER


Rady
Children's
San Diego
Chadwick Center
for Children & Families


Child Advocacy Center
CAC
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY


CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY CENTER
of Santa Clara County


COMMUNITY
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ENGAGE · EMPOWER · PREVENT


Community
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COALITION
FOR FAMILY HARMONY


Addressing the Needs of our Community Since 1965
Helping People, Changing Lives.
community
Action
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ENDING SEXUAL ASSAULT AND FAMILY VIOLENCE


CRC
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER


Covenant
House
California


CONTRA COSTA
SENIOR LEGAL SERVICES


CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
STANISLAUS COUNTY


Community
Solutions


CSAC


East Los Angeles
WOMEN'S CENTER
WHERE YOUR Silence IS Heard


CONTRA
COSTA
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA


A Place of Hope
DOVES
Domestic Violence Education & Services


CUAV
community united against violence


CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY


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DOWNTOWN
WOMEN'S
CENTER


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family
justice
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of stanislaus


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SUPPORTING TULARE COUNTY


FAMILY
ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM


FJC
FAMILY
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Sonoma County


FVLC
Family Violence Law Center


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FVAP
Family Violence Appellate Project


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HEALTHY ALTERNATIVES
TO VIOLENT ENVIRONMENTS


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Assisting Families Victimized
by Domestic Violence


COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
The Home of the Redwoods


HUMAN OPTIONS
PREVENT. PROTECT. EMPOWER. TRANSFORM.


haven hills

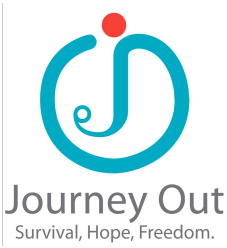

THE COUNTY OF FRESNO
1856


INTERFACE
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES


Jenesse Center, Inc.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION & PREVENTION


Jewish
Family
Service
Moving Forward
Together


JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE LA


Journey Out
Survival, Hope, Freedom.


HRN
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Resilience. Strength. Transformation. Liberation.
Humboldt Domestic Violence Services


Inner
Circle
C.A.C.


KERN COUNTY
CALIFORNIA


JUST DETENTION
INTERNATIONAL


KFAM
KOREAN AMERICAN
FAMILY SERVICES


LEGAL AID
FOUNDATION
of
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY


COUNTY OF LAKE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA


LEGAL
AID of
MARIN
Justice for all


LAKE FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTER


CFJ
Counsel for Justice
LACBA


LEGAL AID
FOUNDATION
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Lassen Family Services, Inc.
Prevention, Healing, Advocacy, Safety, & Education


KINGS COMMUNITY
KCAO
ACTION ORGANIZATION


LIVE VIOLENCE FREE


Law
Foundation
OF SILICON VALLEY


LAURA'S HOUSE
Inspiring Hope and Empowering Change to End Domestic Violence


Marjaree
Mason
Center


50
YEARS OF SERVICE
Los Angeles
Center for
Law and Justice


ALIANZA
LUMINA
ALLIANCE


VICTIM SERVICES
COUNTY OF MODOC
CALIFORNIA
530-233-3311


MCC
Modoc Crisis Center


MONARCH SERVICES
SERVICIOS MONARCA







NLSLA

Neighborhood Legal Services
of Los Angeles County



NEWS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ABUSE SERVICES
NURTURING EMPOWERMENT WORTH SAFETY
NAPA VALLEY

NEXT DOOR
SOLUTIONS TO
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

North Coast
RAPE CRISIS TEAM

NORTH COUNTY
LGBTQ
RESOURCE CENTER





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OPERATION CARE
Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Support Services

oneSAFEplace

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Serving survivors of domestic violence since 1977



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Domestic Violence
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AGAINST
VIOLENCE

PIC

PEACE
OVER
VIOLENCE
ONE ON ONE, ONE BY ONE

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PROJECT
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Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Support

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Placer

ProBono
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Public
Counsel


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District Attorney
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SAN
DIEGO
LGBT
COMM
UNITY
THE CENTER


SAN
SENIOR ADVOCACY
NETWORK


SAN DIEGO DISTRICT ATTORNEY
CALIFORNIA


SafeQuest Solano
Since 1976


SDVLP
SAN DIEGO
VOLUNTEER LAWYER PROGRAM


SAN FRANCISCO
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
CONSORTIUM
ABUSE
FOUNDED IN 1982


THE CENTER


SUTTER
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50 years
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WOMEN AGAINST RAPE
SFWAR


SIERRA
Community
HOUSE









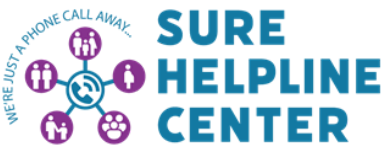


































reimagine to be



















February 26, 2025

Senator Mike McGuire
Senate President pro Tempore

Assembly Member Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly

Senator Scott Wiener
Chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel
Chair of Assembly Budget Committee

Senator Laura Richardson
Chair of Senate Budget Subcommittee 5 on Corrections, Public Safety, Judiciary, Labor and Transportation

Assembly Member James Ramos
Chair of Assembly Budget Subcommittee 6 on Public Safety

Dear Pro Tem McGuire, Speaker Rivas, Chair Wiener, Chair Gabriel, Chair Richardson, and Chair Ramos:

We, the 244 undersigned organizations, representing every county in California, ranging from sexual and domestic violence agencies, to district attorneys, to children's advocacy centers, write requesting $176 million every year for five years to address continuous cuts to the federal Victims of Crime Act Fund (VOCA) and prevent the potentially catastrophic impact these cuts will have on survivors of crime.

VOCA is at the center of California's response to supporting victims of crime and is relied on by local governments, law enforcement, and service providers to fund resources that provide critical care to those facing the traumatic impacts of being a survivor of crime. These programs include counseling, rapid rehousing, legal services, crisis response, and other essential resources

that support vulnerable individuals over both the short and long term. Entities facilitating these programs, which will already need to lay off staff, scale back services, and increase wait times to connect with victims, will now, in some cases, be forced to shut down completely if this minimum amount of funding is not provided. The impacts of these cuts will fall hardest on smaller programs, communities that have been historically underserved, and rural programs. These programs in 2022 alone assisted over 816,000 survivors across the state.

“I am a survivor of sexual and domestic violence. I was held hostage, beaten, raped, tortured, and shot. If rape crisis centers didn’t exist, I would have never been able to tell my story. The staff at the rape crisis center lifted me from the ground where I was left to die.” - Elvira Herrera

In 2024, California made the choice to assist these survivors by allocating $103 million in one-time funding and passing AB 2432 (Gabriel) to address short-term and long-term solutions.

AB 2432 represents a critical advancement in ensuring sustainable funding for crime victim services in California by establishing a new revenue source through accountability measures for corporate misconduct. By holding corporations who harm the public accountable for financial and legal wrongdoing, the bill promises to generate significant resources in the years ahead to support survivors and the services they rely on. While AB 2432 is a vital step toward insulating California’s crime victim services from the volatility of federal funding, its revenue will depend on the successful prosecution of future corporate cases, which will take time to yield results. Immediate and direct financial support remains essential to prevent a disruption in services that form the backbone of California’s response to crime victims.

The $103 million provided in the June final budget was the amount requested by the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to maintain current funding levels for FY24-25. Cal OES shared publicly that this was the bare minimum needed to support the nearly 400 programs experiencing a 44.7% cut in federal funding, with no additional funding to carry over to FY25-26. With the combination of these efforts, our state agreed to supporting survivors for the foreseeable future.

"This funding was vital for our children's advocacy center to continue delivering services to our entire county. It allows us to continue providing child victims of abuse with forensic interviews and mental health services. Losing these funds would have cut out our therapy department completely and would have forced law enforcement to decide which cases of child abuse were most 'important', leading to fewer hurt children getting services. We want to say, 'Thank you for allowing us to continue being the crucial service provider in our county for kids of all types of abuse.'" says Denise Wyatt, Executive Director of Family Healing Center in Fresno, California.

While we wait for AB 2432 to take effect, survivors still find themselves in a precarious situation. With ongoing instability in federal funding and a new Congress and administration, the future of VOCA remains uncertain.

Programs and the crime survivors they serve will be deeply impacted by these cuts. As a result of this reduced funding, organizations may need to lay off staff, scale back on services specific to

historically marginalized and underserved communities, increase wait time to connect victims of crime to valuable services, and more. For survivors, this will reduce their ability to access the support and healing they need and deserve. The impacts of these cuts will fall hardest on smaller programs, rural programs, and communities that have been historically underserved including LGBTQ+ people and people of color. Data has consistently shown that LGBTQ+ people experience hate violence, domestic violence, and sexual assault at higher rates than non-LGBTQ people, with trans folks, bisexual women, and BIPOC LGBTQ+ folks at particularly high risk. We cannot afford to place more restrictions and barriers on LGBTQ+ people's ability to access support, safety, housing security, and legal protections.

To be clear, a choice to not fund these services is a choice to stand by as programs serving 816,000 survivors are cut dramatically. Not providing this minimal investment also has the potential to exacerbate our homelessness crisis, silence immigrant and undocumented communities, and leave survivors at risk of being victimized yet again. We understand that you as state leaders are continuing to navigate through a challenging budget cycle. However, we believe amongst California's top priorities should be ensuring that crime victims are not further victimized because of a lack of resources to support their recovery.

Supporting survivors of crime is one of the most impactful public safety investments that California can make and we strongly urge you to prioritize this funding request.

Sincerely,

California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
Children's Advocacy Centers of California
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
Legal Aid Association of California
Los Angeles LGBT Center
The Culturally Responsive Domestic Violence Network
The LGBTQ Center of Long Beach
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Joined by:

<u>National</u>
Global Transgender Safety Tasks Force USA Inc.
Just Detention International
National Center for Youth Law

<u>Statewide</u>
California Crime Victims Assistance Association (CCVAA)
California Elder Justice Coalition
California Family Justice Network
California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Association

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.
California State Association of Counties
California Victims Resource Center
California Women's Law Center
Californians for Safety and Justice
Children's Advocacy Centers of California Advisory Committee
Covenant House California
Family Violence Appellate Project
OneJustice
Rural County Representatives of California
Smart Justice California
Urban Counties of California
Western Center on Law and Poverty

Alameda County
A Safe Place
BAWAR
CALICO
Choose Your Path Foundation
Family Violence Law Center
Safe Alternatives for Violent Environments Inc. (SAVE)
Treeclimber Media LLC
Tri-Valley Haven

Alpine County
Live Violence Free

Amador County
Operation Care

Butte County
Catalyst Domestic Violence Services

Calaveras County
The Resource Connection, Calaveras Crisis Center

Colusa County
Casa de Esperanza

Contra Costa County
Community Violence Solutions
Contra Costa County
Contra Costa Senior Legal Services
STAND! For Families Free of Violence

Del Norte County
Rural Human Services

El Dorado County
Live Violence Free
The Center for Violence-Free Relationships

Fresno County
Central Valley Justice Coalition
Family Healing Center
Fresno County
Marjaree Mason Center
Rape Counseling Services of Fresno

Glenn County
Catalyst Domestic Violence Services

Humboldt County
Humboldt County
Humboldt Domestic Violence Services
North Coast Rape Crisis Team

Imperial County
Sure Helpline Center

Inyo County
Wild Iris Family Counseling and Crisis Center
CASA of the Eastern Sierra

Kern County
Kern County
Open Door Network
Women's Center-High Desert, Inc.

Kings County
Kings Community Action Organization

Lake County
Lake County
Lake Family Resource Center

Lassen County
Lassen Family Services, Inc.

Los Angeles County
A Window Between Worlds
Antelope Valley Domestic Violence Council
Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California (AJSOCAL)
Bet Tzedek Legal Services
Center for the Pacific Asian Family
Community Legal Aid SoCal
Downtown Women's Center
East Los Angeles Women's Center
FreeFrom
Foothill Family Service
Haven Hills, Inc.
House of Ruth, Inc.
Inner Circle Children's Advocacy Center
Jenesse Center, Inc.
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
Journey Out
Korean American Family Services
LACBA Counsel for Justice
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice
National Organization for Women, Hollywood chapter
Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles
New Directors Counseling Center
New Star Family Justice Center
Pánfila Domestic Violence HOPE Foundation
Peace Over Violence
Positive Results Center
Project: PeaceMakers, Inc.
Project Sister Family Services
PublicCounsel
Rainbow Services, Ltd.
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Western American Area
Shepherd's Door Domestic Violence Resource Center
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, LA
South Asian Helpline and Referral Agency
StrengthUnited
Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative
Survivor Justice Center
The People Concern
This Hits Home and Pánfila Domestic Violence HOPE Foundation
Women Organizing Resources Knowledge and Services
Women's & Children's Crisis Shelter

YWCA Glendale and Pasadena
YWCA Greater Los Angeles

Madera County
Community Action Partnership of Madera County

Marin County
Center for Domestic Peace
Community Violence Solutions
Legal Aid of Marin

Mariposa County
Alliance for Community Transformations

Mendocino County
Project Sanctuary, Inc.

Merced County
Alliance for Community Transformations
Valley Crisis Center

Modoc County
Modoc Crisis Center - A division of TEACH, Inc.
Modoc County Victim Services

Mono County
Wild Iris Family Counseling and Crisis Center
CASA of the Eastern Sierra

Monterey County
Monterey County
Monterey County Rape Crisis Center

Napa County
Napa County District Attorney's Office
NEWS 2018

Nevada County
Community Beyond Violence
Sierra Community House

Orange County
Abrazar, Inc.
Child Guidance Center

Community Legal Aid SoCal
Families Forward
Human Options
Laura's House
Orangewood Foundation
Public Law Center
Radiant Futures
Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation
Waymakers

Placer County
Placer County
Sierra Community House
Stand Up Placer

Plumas County
Plumas Rural Services, Inc.

Riverside County
Gray's Trauma-Informed Care Services Corp
REACH
Riverside County
SAFE Family Justice Centers
Shelter From The Storm, Inc. (SFTS)

Sacramento County
3Strands Global Foundation
California Coalition for Youth
CHAN-BOF for Peace
Opening Doors, Inc.
Sacramento LGBT Community Center
Waking the Village
WEAVE INC

San Benito County
Community Solutions

San Bernardino County
Desert Sanctuary Inc.
DOVES of Big Bear Valley, Inc.
Family Assistance Program
Option House, Inc.
Partners Against Violence
San Bernardino County District Attorney

San Diego County
Center for Community Solutions
Center for Hope and Strength
Chadwick Center for Children and Families
Community Resource Center
Free to Thrive
Jewish Family Service of San Diego
North County LGBTQ Resource Center
Rooting Movements
San Diego County District Attorney
San Diego LGBT Community Center
San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program

San Francisco
Asian Women's Shelter
Bay Area Legal Aid
Community United Against Violence
Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic
Futures Without Violence
Rally Family Visitation Services of SFMH
Safe & Sound
San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium
San Francisco Women Against Rape
Self-Help for the Elderly
W.O.M.A.N., Inc.

San Joaquin County
Partners for International Cooperation
PREVAIL (formerly Women's Center - Youth & Family Services)

San Luis Obispo County
CASA of San Luis Obispo
Center for Family Strengthening
Child Advocacy Center San Luis Obispo County
Lumina Alliance

San Mateo County
Children's Advocacy Center San Mateo County
Rape Trauma Services: A Center for Healing and Violence Prevention

Santa Barbara County
Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County
North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center

Standing Together to End Sexual Assault

Santa Clara County
Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)
Bill Wilson Center
Children's Advocacy Center of Santa Clara County
Community Solutions
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence
Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley
Santa Clara County
YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley

Santa Cruz County
Monarch Services
Walnut Avenue Family & Women's Center

Shasta County
Children's Legacy Center
One SAFE Place

Sierra County
Sierra Safe Program

Siskiyou County
Siskiyou Domestic Violence & Crisis Center

Solano County
SafeQuest Solano, Inc.
Solano Advocates for Victims of Violence (SAVV)
Victims Empowerment Support Team

Sonoma County
Family Justice Center Sonoma County
Redwood Children's Center
Sonoma County
Sonoma County District Attorney
Verity
YWCA Sonoma County

Stanislaus County
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Stanislaus County
Family Justice Center of Stanislaus
Healthy Alternatives to Violent Environments

Senior Advocacy Network

Sutter County
Casa de Esperanza
Sutton County

Tehama County
Empower Tehama

Trinity County
Human Response Network
Trinity County DA Victim Witness Assistance Program

Tulare County
Central California Family Crisis Center, Inc.
Family Services of Tulare County

Tuolumne County
Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office
Tuolumne County District Attorney Victim/Witness

Ventura County
CASA of Ventura County
Coalition for Family Harmony
Interface Children & Family Services
SOROPTIMIST STOP Human Trafficking Committee, Camino Real Region
Ventura County
Ventura County District Attorney

Yolo County
Empower Yolo, Inc.
Yolo County Children's Advocacy Center, the MDIC
Yolo County District Attorney

Yuba County
Casa de Esperanza
Yuba County

Individuals
Tabitha Thomas