

End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin

2024

Annual Report



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Communications Director

2024 Coalition Advocacy Focus:

Supporting Survivors and Advocates Across Wisconsin in a Climate of Funding Instability

In 2024, major federal funding cuts impacted programs and survivors across the state - specifically, an October 2024 70% cut to services in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding.

As the statewide coalition, our focus remained on supporting survivors and advocates across Wisconsin via advocacy in many forms, including public policy advocacy, public awareness, and collaboration with allied partners and organizations across the state.

“

“Programs serving victims and survivors across Wisconsin are scrambling to navigate a devastating 70% drop in federal funding that we all have known was coming. These are agencies offering lifesaving measures to those facing violence – shelter, advocacy, legal assistance, economic supports, housing, culturally specific services, and prevention.

They’re being forced to cut staff, reduce availability and services, and in some cases, close their doors entirely.”

-End Abuse Executive Director Monique Minkens

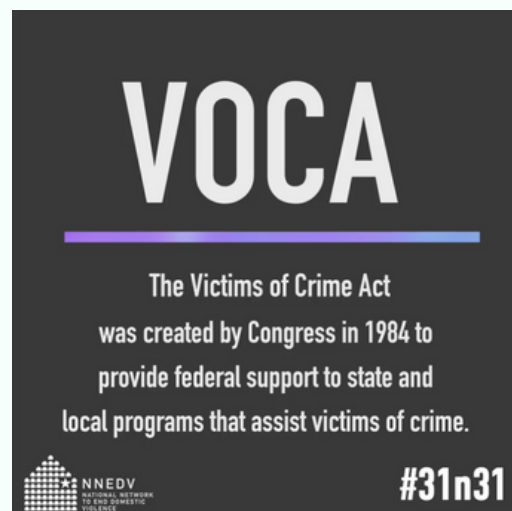


“Wisconsin programs desperately need funding for basic operation. Pending cuts to **VOCA grants, along with cuts in WI state funding, have placed many programs on the brink of closing**, at a time when costs and survivors’ needs are increasing.”

- WI advocate, National Network to End Domestic Violence report

Issue Overview: VOCA Cuts in 2024

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) is a major funding source for domestic violence, sexual assault, and other victim service providers. It was created by Congress in 1984 to provide federal support to state and local programs that assist victims of crime. **Millions of victims rely on VOCA each year to access lifesaving services including shelter, housing, legal assistance, counseling and more.**



Federal funding, already dwindling for years, was slashed by **70%** in **October 2024**, leaving Wisconsin's local domestic violence programs struggling to meet the needs of survivors. There are **over \$657 million** in annual economic losses associated with domestic violence. Data show that funding services for survivors helps by increasing awareness of options to access safety and community resources, with **90% of survivors** reporting that, as a result of receiving services, they know more ways to plan for their safety.



Chart: VOCA award amounts, 2014-2023 | VOCA has steadily declined since 2018. This is a devastating 70% cut for the programs across the state who rely upon VOCA to provide core operating funds and fund shelter, advocacy, legal assistance, economic supports, housing, culturally specific services, and prevention.

An Advocacy Win & Continuing Forward: Act 241

In 2024, we advocated for a meaningful increase in funding in our state budget in the long-term to address this crisis of violence and remove existing funding barriers that prevent flexible service delivery and prevention efforts.

Our advocacy took many forms. We called for action we know will save lives, offered data-backed solutions, told stories encapsulating victims' and advocates' experiences, and made explicit requests from lawmakers. In 2024, as we have since this coalition's inception in 1978 and as we will until sufficient action is taken, **we demanded better for survivors** through advocacy for and alongside those experiencing violence.

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“We can barely keep our doors open. I stay up at night wondering how many more victims will die before WI meaningfully funds our services. **This is an absolutely desperate situation.**”

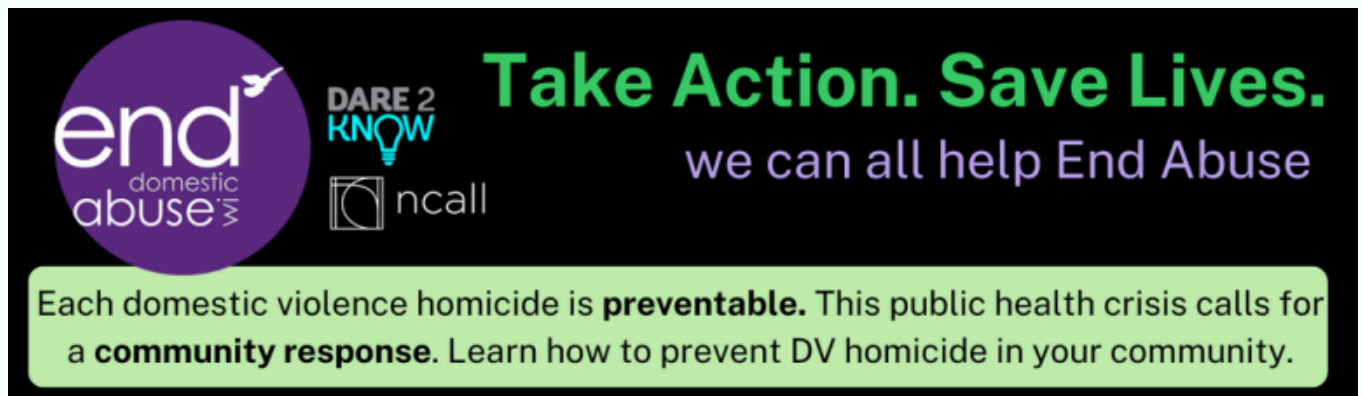
-Wisconsin Program Director

We hold immense gratitude for the lawmakers who stepped in to offset the catastrophic impact the October 2024 70% cut to services in VOCA funding via 2023 Wisconsin Act 241. **After months of collective advocacy with survivors, advocates, and statewide community partners, in March 2024 the legislature passed and Governor Evers signed Act 241.** This temporary stopgap appropriated \$10 million in fiscal year 2023-24 for biennial crime victim grants administered by the Department of Justice, and directed the DOJ to allocate the funding into the three existing state grant programs:

- **Sexual assault** victim services grants would be allocated \$6.4 million;
- **Domestic abuse** grants would be allocated \$2.4 million; and
- **Child advocacy** grants would be allocated \$1.2 million.

Still, Act 241 funds were for only one year, and far below the resources needed.

When the much smaller 2024 VOCA awards were released on September 3rd, 2024, many DV/SA programs lost drastic amounts of funding, including some who did not receive any funding at all. **Our work remains steadfast in our unique role supporting Wisconsin survivors.** We advocate because these are our friends, neighbors, and family members. We advocate because **victims' lives matter.**



end domestic abuse

DARE 2 KNOW

ncall

Take Action. Save Lives.

we can all help End Abuse

Each domestic violence homicide is **preventable**. This public health crisis calls for a **community response**. Learn how to prevent DV homicide in your community.

Our resounding message in its most direct form throughout 2024 was and remains simple: **Resource victim advocates sufficiently, and they will do the work. Fund Wisconsin service providers, and save lives.** In an ongoing climate of funding instability, we use our unique platform in the state to encourage community members to engage in violence prevention, and continue advocacy to fund this essential, life-saving work.



Financials

End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin 2024 Financials

REVENUES	2023	2024
GOVERNMENT & OTHER GRANTS	\$5,006,422	\$5,322,873
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$212,953	\$155,836
RISE LAW CENTER FEES	\$74,366	\$106,907
MEMBERSHIPS	\$35,438	\$33,721
OTHER INCOME	\$24,228	\$41,045
TOTAL REVENUE	\$5,353,407	\$5,660,382

EXPENSES		2023	2024
PROGRAM SERVICES	PROGRAM SUPPORT, TRAINING, & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	\$4,574,225	\$4,240,419
	POLICY DEVELOPMENT & LEGISLATION	\$20,372	\$14,700
	MEMBERSHIP	\$3,455	\$1,573
SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES	MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION	905,979	\$986,776
	FUNDRAISING	\$4,472	\$46,346
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$5,508,503	\$5,289,814
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(\$155,096)	\$370,568

Staff

Staff Members as of December 31, 2024

Monique Minkens, Executive Director

Milly Gonzales, Associate Director

Antonia Norton, Director of ASHA

Betty Brown, ASHA Office Manager

Kalon Fleming, ASHA Housing Case Manager

Rosalind McClain, ASHA Survivor Services

Administrator

Roshundra Muhammad, ASHA Survivor

Services Coordinator

Shawn Muhammad, LTE ASHA Administrative
Consultant

Yetta Armstrong, ASHA DV Housing Advocate

Kristin Burki, Director of NCALL

Sara Mayer, Assistant Director of NCALL

Ann Laatsch, NCALL Justice Systems
Coordinator

Martie Washington, NCALL Program
Coordinator

Victoria Ferguson-Young, NCALL Victim
Services Coordinator

Robin Dalton, Director of Legal Services

Abigail Lezama-Duran, RISE Bilingual Legal
Assistant

Elizabeth Diaz Lorenz, RISE Bilingual Outreach
& Clients Services Specialist

Hannah Ferry, RISE Associate Attorney

Kelsey Mullins, RISE LTE Attorney "Of Counsel"

Samantha Guzman, RISE Associate Attorney

Gricel Santiago-Rivera, RISE Grants Manager

Rachel Fernandez, RISE Sexual Violence
Outreach & Client Services Specialist

Angie Trudell Vasquez, Director of HR

Annette Sauvola, Senior Staff Accountant

Chris Logan, Grants Coordinator 2

Cody Warner, LGBTQ & Youth Program
Director

Colleen Cox, Education & Training Coordinator

Daniel Krishnan, Technology Manager

Danny Ho, Leadership & Advocacy Program
Director

Elise Buchbinder, Communications Director

Holland Dvorak, Housing Initiatives
Coordinator

Jenna Gormal, Public Policy Director

Kai Gigous, Program Assistant

Kari LaScala, Staff Attorney

Kris Knickmeier, Grants Coordinator

Kristi Parteheimer, Director of Finance

Kwnwahta Smith, Southern Region Youth
Program Coordinator

Lauren Maersch, Director of Finance

Leslie Streich, Staff Accountant

Nicole Johnson, Program Capacity & Support
Coordinator

Sarah Carpenter, Associate Director of Finance

Stephanie Vang, Prevention Coordinator

Tegan Swanson, Systems Change Coordinator

Valerie Clark, Technology Support Specialist

Board

Active Board Members as of December 31, 2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Katie Bement
Samantha Collier
Brenda John
Deb Lee
Robin Scott
Greta Surprenant
Kim West
Lilada Gee
T'Aira Jackson
Jamie Kratz-Gullickson
Sagashus Levingston
Paris Nash
Karen Weed

Proud member of



Follow End Abuse on social media



Founded in 1978, End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin (End Abuse) is the statewide voice for victims of domestic violence (DV). We provide technical assistance to DV volunteers and advocates, law enforcement, legislators, and community members to provide safety and support to survivors.

We partner with communities to shift WI from the attitudes & beliefs that cause DV to values of mutual respect and equity. By doing so, we strive to prevent and end DV for future generations.

Sponsors

Thank you to our sponsors for helping to make our work possible! For sponsorship and supporter opportunities, contact info@endabusewi.org.



The Anonymous Fund as part of:



To make a donation and support the work to end abuse and oppression, [click here](#).

View past years' Annual Reports at www.endabusewi.org/resources

End Domestic Abuse WI will take reasonable steps to ensure that persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access and an equal opportunity to participate in our services, activities, programs and other benefits. This document can be made available in large print or alternate formats upon request.