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Victim
Assistance

ANNUAL REPORT

Victim Assistance Program

A MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM OUR CEO

For 54 years, Victim Assistance Program has been at the forefront of victim service agencies, providing crisis intervention, victim advocacy, and education to our community. As the third CEO of this historic organization, I am filled with a deep sense of optimism for our future. This optimism is rooted in a legacy that has helped shape and advance the field of victim services, as well as in the strength and resilience of those we serve, the unwavering commitment of our staff, and the dedicated partners who continue to invest in and champion our mission of empowering our community to restore lives impacted by crisis, violence, and tragedy.



Guided by our five core values of evolution, accountability, collaboration, leadership, and humility, we meet those we serve with compassion and expertise to help them navigate from hardship to healing. As needs change, Victim Assistance Program evolves alongside those needs and adapts our services to meet emerging challenges while upholding the highest standards of care. Through deepening collaborations across systems, we work to ensure victims can access support when they need it most.

In 2025, we were honored and humbled to walk alongside thousands of individuals and families in their most difficult moments. Behind every number in this report is a person, a family, and a story of resilience in the aftermath of profound tragedy. This impact is only made possible through the trust and generosity of our supporters, and together, we can ensure no victim has to navigate the aftermath or a crisis or tragedy alone.

Thank you for standing with us, for believing in our mission, and for making this life-changing work possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca O'Neil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rebecca" and last name "O'Neil" clearly distinguishable.

Chief Executive Officer



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Bill McCarron
Chair

Rebekah Chapman
Vice Chair

Lisa Carey Dean
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Paul Frey

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Dr. Paul Levy

Jay Mellon

Megan Raber

Thomas Smoot

Brian Thomas

Arkeiya Walker

LEADERSHIP STAFF



Rebecca Cool,
MSW, LSW, CA
Chief Executive Officer

Chelsea Robertson
Director of Services

Melise Klink
Director of Finance

Kim Laurene,
Ph.d
Director of Grants & Community Outreach

Shelley Blundell,
Ph.d
Director of Education

Terry Costigan,
BA
Asst. Director of Finance

Christel Durbec
Asst. Director of Services - Crisis

Zachary Gilgenbach,
MSCJ
Asst. Director of Services - Advocacy

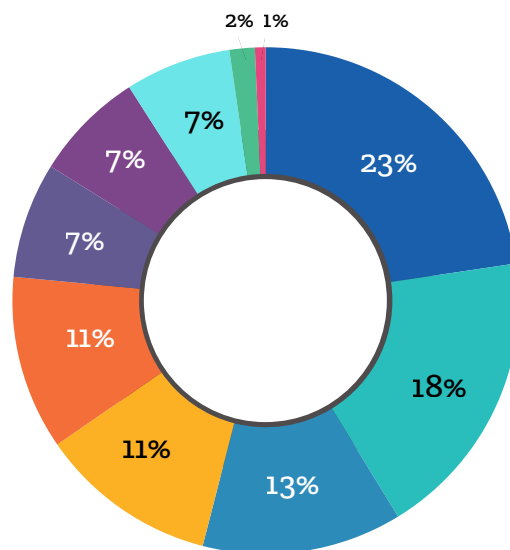
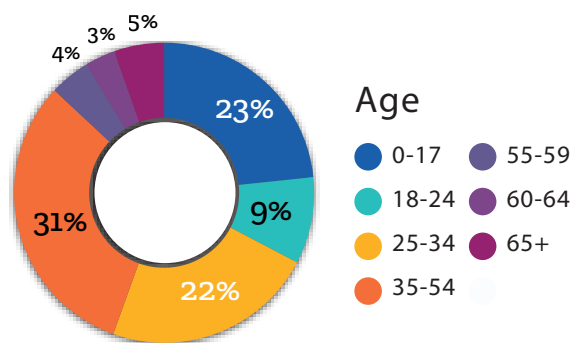
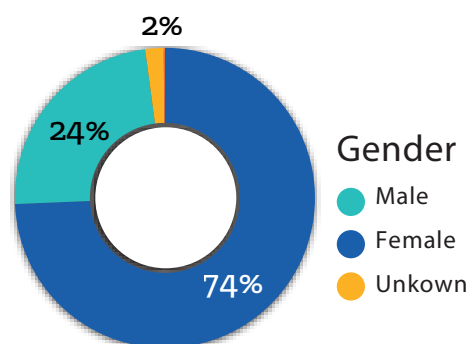
SERVICES PROVIDED ANNUALLY

3,724

unduplicated clients served

71,993

duplicated services provided



Top Services Provided

- Education on Services
- Crisis Intervention
- Follow-Up Support
- Criminal Justice Support & Education
- Court Advocacy
- Safety Planning
- Community Referrals
- Needs Assessments
- System Advocacy
- Accompaniment

Note: % reflects ONLY the top 10 services provided.

Over 30 Victimization Types Served in 2025

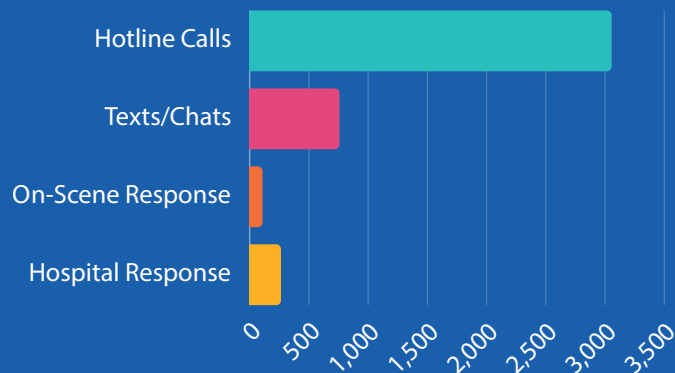
35% Domestic/Family/Dating Violence

15% Harassment/Menacing

14% Assault/Felonious Assault

3% Shooting

3% Suicide



3,056

Hotline
Calls



108

On-Scene
Response

Requested by Police/Fire/ EMS



758

Texts/
Chats



264

Hospital
Response

SUMMIT VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY



150

unduplicated
audience members
that attended
customized trainings

27

paid students who
took 'The Essentials
of Victim Advocacy'
course



51

hours of Internal staff
training provided to
each person

OUR FINANCES

Financial contributors have assurance that Victim Assistance Program a cost effective and professionally managed organization. The following financial information is audited. (1/1/2025-12/31/2025)

REVENUES

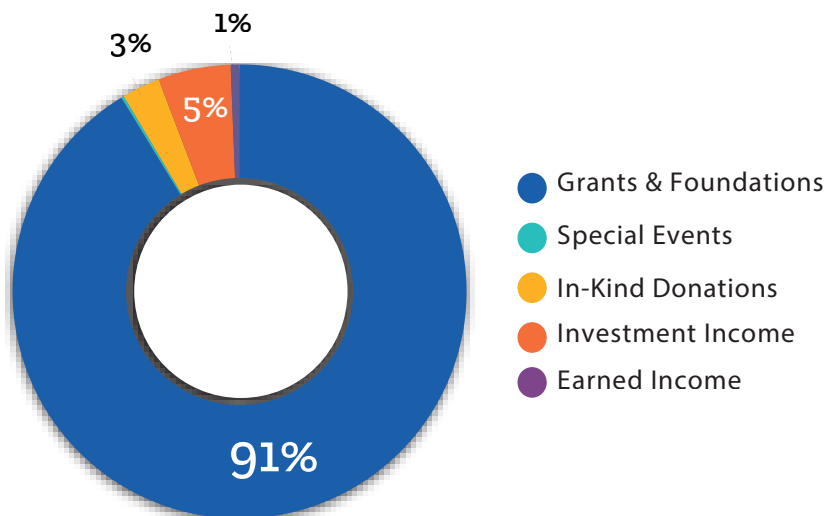
Grants & Foundations	\$1,991,297
Special Events	\$4,138
In-Kind Donations	\$59,247
Investment Income	\$112,886
Earned Income (SVAA)	\$13,824

Total Revenue: \$2,181,392

EXPENSES

Programs	\$1,713,660
Management & Administration	\$444,506
Fundraising & Outreach	\$83,679

Total Expenses: \$2,241,845



GUN VIOLENCE RESPONSE FUND IMPACT

6.17.24 - 12.31.25

Purpose of GVRF

To support the work of Victim Assistance Program in meeting the needs of those impacted by gun violence in our community.



Fund Start Date
6/17/24



Total Clients Served
54 individuals



Direct Victims of 6/2/24
Kelly Ave. Mass Shooting



Top Referral Source
Akron Police Department
48%



Client Demographics

Age: 57% (35-44), 30% (25-34)

Gender: 72% Female, 28% Male

Income: 30% < \$5000 annual income

Race: 78% African American, 3% White, 7% Multi-racial



Amount Raised
\$300,000 approx
Flexible Financial
Assistance Provided
\$166,483.19

Category	Cases	Percentage
Transportation	75	29.8%
Housing	75	29.8%
Utilities	73	29%
Other basic needs	18	7.1%
Funeral expenses	5	2%
Food	3	1.1%
Safety	2	1%

VAP has **saved over \$3000** in GVRF funding by negotiating with vendors to waive incurred late fees and other charges.

OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A LIFE-CHANGING IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF VICTIMS IN SUMMIT COUNTY.

Foundations

Akron Bar Foundation
Akron Community Foundation
Barberton Community Foundation
Bath Volunteers For Service
Bill and Trish Steere Fund
Charles E. & Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
David R. and Cheryl L. Venarge Fund
Enbridge Gas Ohio
GAR Foundation
Gertrude F. Orr Trust Advised Fund of Akron
Community Foundation
Glenn R. and Alice V. Boggess Memorial Foundation
Gun Violence Response Fund of Akron Community
Foundation
Huntington Akron Foundation
John A. DePizzo, Jr. Family Foundation
Kaulig Foundation
Kenneth L. Calhoun Charitable Trust
Laura R. & Lucian Q. Moffitt Foundation
The Lehner Family Foundation
Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation

Mark and Katie Smucker Family Fund of Akron
Community Foundation
Mary and Dr. George L. Demetros Charitable Trust
The Mary S. & David C. Corbin Foundation
The Maynard Family Foundation
Millennium Fund for Children of Akron Community
Foundation
The R.C. Musson and Katharine M. Musson Charitable
Foundation
Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence
Ohio Domestic Violence Network
Spark Good Local Grant
Synthomer Foundation
The Sisler McFawn Foundation
The Tom, Mary and Becky Babcox Family Foundation
Thomas and Lisa Mandel Family Foundation
Tuscora Park Health & Wellness Foundation
The Welty Family Foundation
W. Paul Mills and Thora J. Mills Memorial Foundation
Women In Touch With Akron's Needs (WITAN)
Women's Endowment Fund of Akron Community
Foundation

Grants

City of Akron

Community Development Block Grant
Special Projects

City of Green Law Department

County of Summit

Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board General
Funds
Department of Job & Family Services General Funds

City of Barberton

Community Development Block Grant

Office of Criminal Justice Services

Violence Against Women Act
Family Violence Prevention Services Act
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

Ohio Attorney General

State Victim Assistance Act
Victim of Crime Act

Office on Violence Against Women

Financial Assistance for Victims Program
Legal Assistance for Victims Program

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

IN 2025,

we conducted and/or staffed approximately

43 OUTREACH

presentations and/or tables

5,952 COMMUNITY MEMBERS

connecting and supporting our community
in a truly engaging way.



SOCIAL MEDIA

↑ **278**

new followers
across all platforms

↑ **35k**

new website users

VOLUNTEERS

This year we had:

7

interns

18

board
members

1,672

hours donated





CONNECT WITH US



Main Office

137 South Main Street, Suite 300
Akron, OH 44308

Akron Police Dept. Detective Bureau

217 South High Street, 6th Floor
Akron, OH 44308

Summit County Domestic Relations Court & Children Who Witness Violence (CWWV) Drop-In Center

205 South High Street, 3rd Floor
Akron, OH 44308

Akron Municipal Court

172 South Broadway, 2nd Floor
Akron, OH 44308

Barberton Municipal Court

576 West Park Avenue, 1st Floor
Barberton, OH 44203

Stow Municipal Court

4400 Courthouse Drive, 2nd Floor
Stow, OH 44224



24-Hour Hotline
330.376.0040

24-Hour Online Chat
victimassistanceprogram.org

