



Office of Crime Victims Advocacy

Sexual Assault Services Section

jd Nielsen (she/her)

PROGRAM MANAGER

10/19/2023



Washington State
Department of
Commerce

We strengthen communities



HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



INFRASTRUCTURE AND BROADBAND



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



ENERGY



PLANNING AND TECH ASSISTANCE



COMMUNITY SERVICES



CRIME VICTIMS AND PUBLIC SAFETY



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OCVA Vision

We envision a future where all people have access to support, healing, and the ability to reach their full potential; where all people experience autonomy, dignity, freedom of identity and expression, and safety in their homes and communities.





**Get up. Stand up. Speak up.
Do something.**

~Tarana Burke

WA State Victim Advocacy Services





What We Do

Serves as a voice within government for the needs of crime victims in Washington state. Established in 1990, OCVA serves the state by:

- Advocating on behalf of victims obtaining needed services and resources
- Administering grant funds for community programs working with crime victims.
- Assisting communities in planning and implementing services for crime victims.
- Advising local and state government agencies of practices, policies, and priorities that impact crime victims.
- Creating service standards & accreditation for community-based advocacy programs to ensure high quality of service delivery across the state.



Office of Crime Victims Advocacy (OCVA)

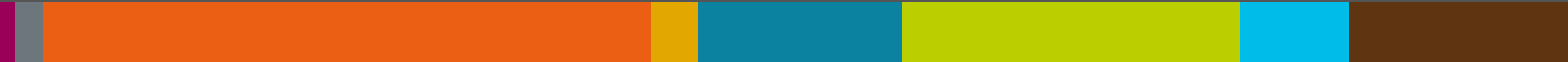
- Works with tribal organizations, governments, community-based organizations and individuals to reduce the impact of crime & violence
- Our programs provide a range of services to include crisis intervention, victim advocacy, therapy, medical forensic exams, legal aid, prevention, education, law enforcement & medical social work for primary & secondary survivors of all ages, gender identities
- Focus on marginalized & Native American communities, By And For organizations
- Some of the crime types:
 - Sexual Assault/abuse (child, teen & adult)
 - Burglary
 - Assault
 - Domestic Violence (household, family, intimate partner)
 - Stalking
 - Human Trafficking (Labor & Sex)
 - Homicide
 - Vulnerable adult abuse
 - Identity Theft & Fraud

Courthouse Facility Dogs and SANEs!





Victim Advocacy

- Community Sexual Assault Programs (CSAPs)-free, all ages, low barrier, holistic
 - Self-empowerment model & choice, not therapy, rooted in social justice, restorative justice
 - Offered in all counties (some are shared), range in capacity, size and area served
 - Could include Crime Victim Service Centers and/or DV programs
 - Survivor-centered & trauma-informed, privileged communication, legal victim rights
 - Community specific, communities are the experts of their needs
 - Assist in navigating systems: medical, legal, employment, immigration, housing, educational, correctional systems
 - Assist with Crime Victims Compensation
 - Could include Crime Victim Service Centers and/or DV programs
 - Systems-based advocates: no privileged communication, attached to criminal case
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Thank you!

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www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/crime-victims-advocacy/



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