

Department Name	Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center (CVSVC)
Account(s)	4610

Department Function

CVSVC has experienced mobile advocates who serve individuals in our State Street office, local courts, law enforcement agencies, emergency departments, college campuses, the White House, the Child Advocacy Center, and in the community. CVSVC staff advocate for individuals utilizing a comprehensive, trauma-informed, client centered, and multi-system approach. We offer a holistic assessment, provide information and referrals, and assist individuals in filing claims for compensation with the NYS Office of Victim Services. CVSVC operates a 24-hour crisis hotline for crisis intervention, supportive counseling, and advocacy at Albany Medical Center, the Child Advocacy Center, and police stations. We provide free and confidential therapy for victims of crime, as well as their friends and family, in individual, family, or group settings. We offer court advocacy in all the courts of Albany County, including Family Court. We work with local colleges to provide campus-based services to students, faculty and staff who have been affected by interpersonal violence. We offer specialized case coordination and advocacy for youth who have been the subject of commercial sexual exploitation. We have two case managers who provide comprehensive, coordinated services to vulnerable victims of crime. Finally, CVSVC offers a volunteer program, as well as public education programs and community mobilization projects on interpersonal violence prevention for adults, youth and children throughout the County.

Current Year Highlights

CVSVC continues to provide high quality, trauma-informed services to the community. Recognizing that violence unfortunately touches all of our community, we strive to provide accessible and innovative programming in multiple and varied locations throughout Albany County. This year, we operated our “Breaking Barriers” support group at Albany County Correctional Facility for female incarcerated persons who are victims/survivors of trauma. We were very excited to add a playground with adaptive, accessible equipment at the White House to enhance child play therapy services. Our clinical team provided support for local school districts experiencing traumatic events. We held our 43rd annual Take Back the Night event at Albany’s Washington Park. We conducted human trafficking awareness and prevention groups for youth at the Albany Public Library, Capital District Juvenile Secure Detention Facility, Cayuga Centers, Northern Rivers Family Services, and St. Anne’s Institute. We provided violence awareness and prevention programming to K-12 students in multiple school districts, including Albany, Bethlehem, BKW, Guilderland, North Colonie, and South Colonie. We continued to grow our college campus program, providing educational programs and support services to students and faculty/staff at Albany County colleges/universities. We conducted book clubs at Albany High School and the Albany Public Library, as well as a “Victim/Suspect” documentary screening and panel discussion. We continued to grow our Healthy Nightlife Initiative, collaborating with local LGBTQ+ organizations to improve nightlife safety. We offered trainings for professionals throughout the community, including healthcare and mental health providers, employees of various community and social services agencies, and new recruits at the Albany Police Academy. We held a “DV 101” training and participated in a field worker safety training for Albany County employees. Recognizing the impact of vicarious trauma on staff, we introduced a staff training and retreat day at Lawson Lake. We welcomed multiple interns to our department, including an intern from Albany Law School who assisted us in complying with the U.S National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence.

Next Year Projects

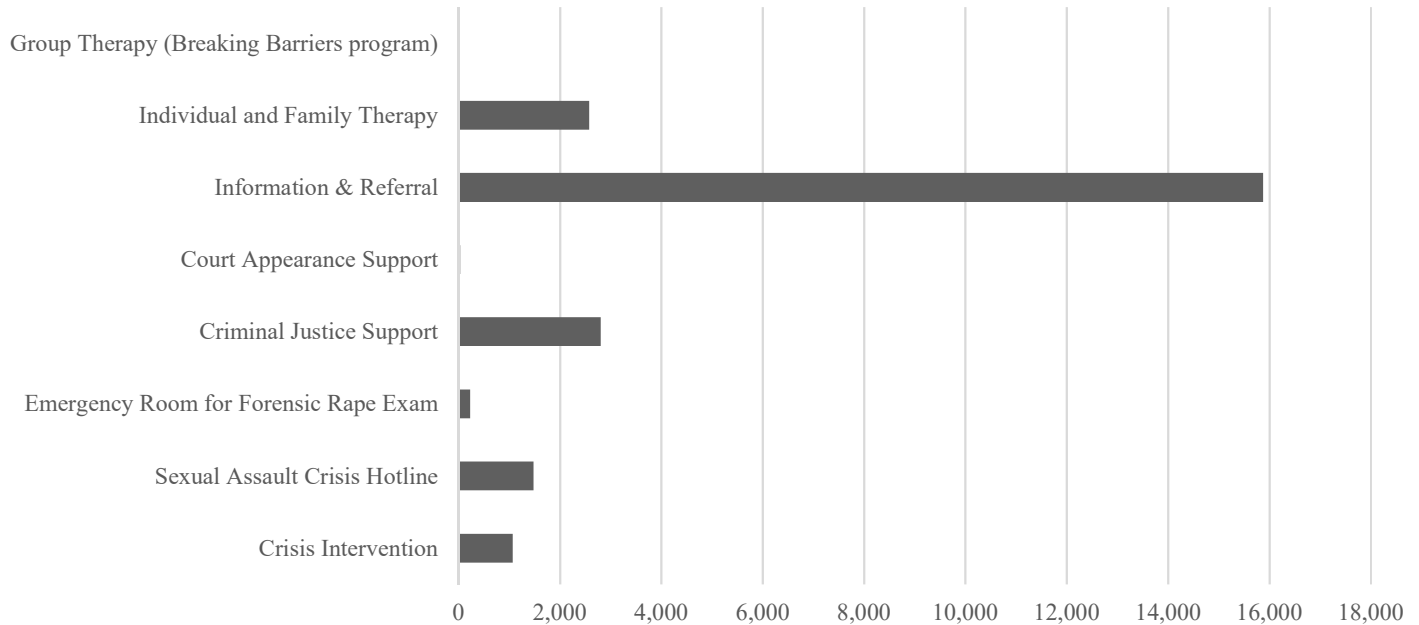
Every year brings with it the opportunity to expand our programming, and we are looking forward to several new initiatives. We are currently working on a program which will provide supportive services to individuals in the Albany County Sheriff’s Homeless Improvement Program (SHIP). We will be piloting a Youth Violence Prevention Initiative to provide educational and support services to youth and their families. We will be collaborating with other Albany County departments on an anti-bullying program. We will be offering a new curriculum “Child Safety Matters” to K-12 school districts throughout Albany County. We anticipate continued collaboration with colleges/universities. We are currently investigating rideshare options to provide transportation and improve accessibility for clients. We look forward to continuing to utilize the beautiful facilities at Lawson Lake, both for staff development and supportive programming for victims of crime.

Link to Website	https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/crime-victim-and-sexual-violence-center
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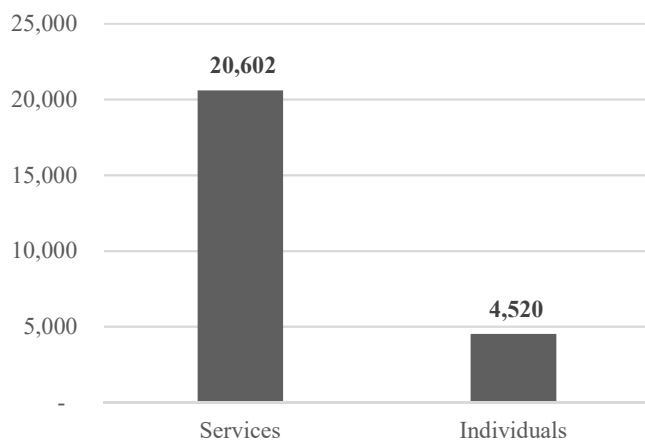
Programmatic Highlights

2023 Crime Victim Services Program Statistics



	Crisis Intervention	Sexual Assault Crisis Hotline	Emergency Room for Forensic Rape Exam	Criminal Justice Support	Court Appearance Support	Information & Referral	Individual and Family Therapy	Group Therapy (Breaking Barriers program)
■ 2023	1,070	1,475	225	2,804	31	15,879	2,575	27

2023 Crime Victim Services Statistics



2023 Crime Victims Services Community Outreach Events

