



# 2024 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

*Violence Free Minnesota is a statewide coalition of nearly 90 member programs working to end relationship abuse across the state.*

## Proactive Agenda



### Funding:

- **Funding Amount:** In collaboration with the other Crime Victim Services coalitions, we have decided to request \$20 million from the state for Crime Victim Services this year, which is the equivalent to asking for \$40 million over the biennium.
- **Minnesota Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act:** Shift the 25% cost savings from the MRRA from the general fund to crime victim services.



### Survivor's Justice Act:

- Judges must consider a history of domestic violence when determining a sentence for a crime connected to that domestic violence, and this bill would allow people serving sentences for crimes they committed as a result of domestic abuse, sexual assault, or trafficking to apply to have their sentence reduced.



### Advocate Confidentiality:

- Violence Free Minnesota wants to improve domestic violence advocate confidentiality to be an absolute, and not qualified, privilege on the same level as that afforded to sexual assault advocates.



## Supportive Agenda



- **Statewide Forensics Coordinator:** We support the establishment of a Statewide Forensics Coordinator position in Minnesota, as well as any efforts to expand access, especially rural access, to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners.



- **Disability and DV/SA Task Force:** VFMN supports the creation of a workgroup to assess the specific needs of disabled victim/survivors.



- **Comprehensive Sex/Relationship Education:** VFMN supports the creation and mandating of sex and relationship education for ages 10-18 which helps teach minors appropriate and healthy romantic relationship behaviors, as well as helps them identify when they may be in an unhealthy relationship.

## THE COALITION TO END RELATIONSHIP ABUSE

Contact Jess Palyan at 651.646.6177 Ext. 115 or [jpalyan@vfmn.org](mailto:jpalyan@vfmn.org) to discuss how you can make Minnesota safer for all.




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## Supportive Agenda

-  • **504b.206 Changes:** VFMN supports changes to Minn. Stat. 504B.206 which updates the language to allow for telehealth or virtual contact with medical providers or DV/SA advocates. VFMN further supports changes which limit the financial liability of survivors who utilize 504b.206.
-  • **North Star Act:** VFMN supports a bill to disentangle Minnesota Law Enforcement from ICE, which should enable undocumented victims to be more likely to seek help.
-  • **Justice For All Coalition Proposals:** As a member of the Justice For All Coalition's steering committee, VFMN supports all JFA recommended bills to bring about a safer and fairer Minnesota.



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**Violence Free Minnesota's programs provide critical core public safety and crime victim services in all 87 counties.**

\*360 Communities/Lewis House, Dakota, Carver, Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey  
 Advocacy Center of Winona, Winona  
 Advocates for Family Peace, Itasca, Northern St. Louis  
 Advocates for Human Rights, International  
 Advocates of the Bemidji Area, Beltrami  
 \*Alexandra House, Anoka  
 \*American Indian Community Housing Organization, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake, Cook, Itasca  
 \*Anna Marie's Alliance, Sherburne, Benton, Stearns, Mille Lacs, Wright  
 ARRC Shelter, Hubbard  
 \*Asian Women United of MN, Hennepin, Ramsey  
 Battered Women's Justice Project, National  
 Bluff Country Family Resources, Filmore, Houston  
 Bois Forte Tribal Government - Victim Services, Nett Lake, Koochiching, St. Louis  
 Brave of Heart, Washington  
 Breaking Free, Ramsey  
 \*Casa de Esperanza, Hennepin, Ramsey  
 \*Committee Against Domestic Abuse, Brown, Nicollet, Blue Earth, LeSueur,  
 Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan, Faribault, Martin  
 Community Health Services, Polk, Norman, Clay, Pennington  
 Community Stabilization Project, Ramsey  
 Community University Health Care Center, Hennepin  
 Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicios (CLUES), Hennepin, Ramsey  
 \*Cornerstone Advocacy Services, Hennepin  
 Crime Victim Resource Center - Mayo Clinic, Mower  
 Crisis Resource Center of Steele County, Steele  
 CURA-POT, Ramsey  
 Division of Indian Work, Hennepin  
 Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs, St. Louis  
 Domestic Abuse Project, Hennepin  
 East Side Neighborhood Services, Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey  
 \*Equay Wiigamig, Red Lake Reservation, Beltrami  
 \*Family Pathways, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, Carlton  
 Family Safety Network, Cass, Clearwater, Hubbard  
 Freeborn County Crime Victim Crisis Center, Freeborn  
 Friends Against Abuse, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods  
 Gender Violence Institute, Statewide  
 Global Rights for Women, International  
 Hands of Hope Resource Center, Morrison, Todd  
 Hmong American Partnership, Ramsey  
 Healing Opportunity Provided Equally (HOPE), Aitkin, Crow Wing  
 Hope Center, Rice  
 \*Hope Coalition, Goodhue, Wabasha  
 Indigenous Women's Life Net, Ramsey, Hennepin  
 Kissy's Stay Put Services, Hennepin  
 Karen Organization of Minnesota, Statewide  
 \*Lakes Crisis and Resource Center, Becker & surrounding area  
 Martin County Victim Services, Martin  
 McLeod Alliance for Victims of Domestic Violence, McLeod  
 Men As Peacemakers - Men and Masculine Folk Network, Statewide  
 \*Mid-Minnesota Women's Center, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, Wadena

Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Hennepin  
 Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Family Violence Prevention Program, Aitkin, Crow Wing,  
 Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Otter Tail, Pine  
 Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless, Statewide  
 Minnesota Elder Justice Center, Statewide  
 Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Hennepin  
 \*Missions, Inc. - Home Free, Hennepin  
 New Horizons Crisis Center, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Redwood  
 North Shore Horizons, Lake  
 Northwest Indian Community Development Center, Beltrami  
 \*Northwoods Battered Women's Shelter, Beltrami, Cass  
 Oasis of Love Crisis Intervention, Hennepin  
 OutFront Minnesota, Statewide  
 Pearl Crisis Center, Mille Lacs  
 Phumulani: Minnesota African Women Against Domestic Violence, Anoka,  
 Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington  
 Pillsbury United Communities, Hennepin  
 Praxis International, National  
 Rape and Abuse Crisis Center of Fargo-Moorhead, Clay, Wilkin  
 Rivers of Hope, Wright  
 \*Safe Avenues, Kandiyohi, Swift, Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle, Renville, Meeker,  
 McLeod  
 \*Safe Haven Shelter and Resource Center, St. Louis, Carlton, Aitkin, Itasca, Lake,  
 Cook, Koochiching  
 SEWA-AIFW (Asian Indian Family Wellness), Hennepin, Ramsey  
 Sexual Violence Center, Hennepin, Carver, Scott  
 \*Sojourner Project, Hennepin, Carver, Dakota, Ramsey  
 Someplace Safe, Big Stone, Grant, Pope, Stevens, Douglas, Traverse, Wilkin, Otter  
 Tail, Wadena  
 Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS), Southern MN  
 Southern Valley Alliance, Carver, Scott  
 Southwest Crisis Center, Noble, Pipestone, Rock, Cottonwood, Jackson  
 St. Paul and Ramsey County Intervention Project, Ramsey  
 Standpoint, Statewide  
 Stevens County Victim Witness, Stevens  
 ThinkSelf, Statewide  
 Transforming Generations, Ramsey, Hennepin, Washington, Dakota  
 \*Tubman, Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington  
 \*Violence Intervention Project, Red Lake, Pennington, Marshall, Kittson, Roseau  
 Violence Prevention Center, Cook  
 White Earth DOVE Program, White Earth Reservation, Mahnomen, Becker,  
 Clearwater  
 WISE, Statewide  
 \*Women of Nations, Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington  
 \*Women's Advocates, Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott,  
 Washington  
 WoMen's Rural Advocacy Programs, Lincoln, Lyon, Yellow Medicine, Redwood  
 \*Women's Shelter and Support Center, Dodge, Fillmore, Olmsted & surrounding counties  
 WOVAN, Ramsey  
 Yellow Medicine County Victim Services, Yellow Medicine

\*Emergency Shelter Program

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