



## Increase State Investment in Victim Services

March 15, 2021

In collaboration, Minnesota's coalitions working to end violence and abuse request the State invest in victims/survivors.

- **HF 861 / SF 2104 | \$4 million annual investment for Emergency Funds and Direct Client Assistance to support the needs of domestic and sexual violence victims and the victims of other crimes.** Current funds are woefully inadequate to address basic needs of crime victims. Administered by the Department of Public Safety's Office of Justice Programs (DPS/OJP).
- **\$10 million annually for community-based programming to support victims/survivors and their children.** A one-time \$10 million appropriation for victim services was included in the Governor's budget. Funded through the Department of Corrections and administered by DPS/OJP.
- **SF 1229 | Invest in domestic abuse transformation programming and restorative and transformative justice initiatives.** These programs work with people who have committed harm to change behavior, prevent harm, and end violence within intimate partner relationships. Though Minnesota is a nationwide leader in developing programming to transform abusive behaviors through education and accountability, this essential work has never been funded in Minnesota.

Supportive Funding Asks:

- **HF 315 / SF 455 | \$7.5 million annual increase to fund housing through the Emergency Services Program (ESP).** ESP funding provides emergency shelter and safety from COVID-19 and violence (through congregate, scattered site, and motel settings). Domestic and sexual violence is a leading cause of family homelessness. Additionally, adults and children experience high rates of violence while homeless. ***This investment in ESP funding will directly benefit victims/survivors, help them to gain safety, and prevent further violence.*** A Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless initiative administered by the Department of Human Services/Office of Economic Opportunity.

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