

CVF Stabilization Act Toolkit

Fall 2024

Urge Congress to Pass the Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act (H.R.8061/S.4514)

Critical funding for victim services is still in jeopardy, which could endanger victims if Congress doesn't act now. Victim safety and healing are on the line.

Join with local, state, and national organizations on Tuesday, September 10 for a national day of action to urge Congress to pass the bipartisan *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024* (CVFSA) (S.4514/H.R.8061) this year. We're up to 134 cosponsors in the House for H.R. 8061—let's get to 218 by the end of September and get this bill to the President by the end of the year! Use this [toolkit](#) for scripts, sample emails, social media posts, and contact information. Act now and forward widely!

Take these actions on September 10:

- Call and email you members of Congress and ask them to cosponsor and work with leadership to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*.
- Tag your members of Congress in social media posts urging them to take action to save Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding.
- Write an op-ed or a letter to the editor or pitch a story to a local journalist.

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Social Media

Click [here](#) to automatically tweet your members of Congress (please personalize the tweet to increase impact) or use one of the templates below.

Twitter handles: To find the twitter handle of your Senators and Representative, visit this [link](#).

Hashtags:

#PassCVFSA #VOCA

Templates:

.@RepXXXXXX/@SenXXXXXX Act today to cosponsor and take leadership to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* (<https://tinyurl.com/yjvhzrdw>). Victims in **[State/District]** need your help to prevent further catastrophic impacts to essential victim services funding!

.@RepXXXXXX/@SenXXXXXX *Description of VOCA cut impacts in your state/district.*
We need you to take leadership to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*.




URGENT: The Victims of Crime Act (#VOCA) has been cut 40% endangering millions of victims and survivors of violence. Tell Congress to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*. #PassCVFSA <https://tinyurl.com/yjvhzrdw>

The *Crime Victim Fund Stabilization Act* (H.R.8061/S.4514) will help prevent more catastrophic cuts to #VOCA. Tell Congress to act today and pass this important bill! <https://tinyurl.com/yjvhzrdw>

Lives are on the line! #VOCA cuts endanger survivors. Pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*. <https://tinyurl.com/yjvhzrdw>

Did you know the Victims of Crime Act (#VOCA) supports millions of crime victims yearly? But VOCA is in trouble. The *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* can help stabilize VOCA. <https://tinyurl.com/yjvhzrdw>

Click [here](#) to download social media graphics!

Scroll for suggested alt text and image descriptions.   

Suggested Alt Text and Image Descriptions:

VOCA 2024 Day of Action - [purple or teal] 1

- **Alt Text:** Urgent call to action. Tell Congress to Pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act!*
- **Image Description:** Against a [purple or teal] background is a white icon of the United States Capitol and white text reading: "Urgent call to action. Tell Congress to Pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act!*"

VOCA 2024 Day of Action - [purple or teal] 2

- **Alt Text:** What is the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)? VOCA created the Crime Victims Fund (CVF), which is the primary source of federal grant funding for services for survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, stalking, trafficking, and other crimes.
- **Image Description:** Against a [purple or teal] background, white text reads: "What is the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)? VOCA created the Crime Victims Fund (CVF), which is the primary source of federal grant funding for services for survivors of domestic violence, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, stalking, trafficking, and other crimes."

VOCA 2024 Day of Action - [purple or teal] 3

- **Alt Text:** Why is VOCA's funding in danger? Deposits into the Crime Victims Fund (CVF) fluctuate annually. Now, the CVF balance is at a historic low. A low CVF balance causes devastating cuts to VOCA grants and endangers programs and survivors.
- **Image Description:** Against a [purple or teal] background, white text reads: "Why is VOCA's funding in danger? Deposits into the Crime Victims Fund (CVF) fluctuate annually. Now, the CVF balance is at a historic low. A low CVF balance causes devastating cuts to VOCA grants and endangers programs and survivors."

VOCA 2024 Day of Action - [purple or teal] 4

- **Alt Text:** What is the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*? The bipartisan *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024* will stabilize the balance of the Crime Victims Fund and prevent further cuts to VOCA grants. It will support programs and save lives.
- **Image Description:** Against a [purple or teal] background, white text reads: "What is the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*? The bipartisan *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024* will stabilize the balance of the Crime Victims Fund and prevent further cuts to VOCA grants. It will support programs and save lives."

VOCA 2024 Day of Action - [purple or teal] script

- **Alt Text:** Call 202-224-3121 and say: Hello, my name is ____ and I'm a constituent from _____. I urge you to support the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*. The Victims of Crime Act is the primary source of federal funding for victim services, supporting survivors of domestic violence, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, and other serious crimes. Due to a significant drop in deposits into the Crime Victims

Fund, or CVF, funding for these critical services has been severely cut. The *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* will help restore the CVF by temporarily adding excess funding from the False Claims Act to the CVF to ensure that vital victim services remain available. I urge you to co-sponsor and support this bipartisan bill to restore funding for survivors of crime. Thank you.

- **Image Description:** Against a [purple or teal] background, white text reads: "Call 202-224-3121 and say: Hello, my name is ____ and I'm a constituent from _____. I urge you to support the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*. The Victims of Crime Act is the primary source of federal funding for victim services, supporting survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and other serious crimes. Due to a significant drop in deposits into the Crime Victims Fund, or CVF, funding for these critical services has been severely cut. The *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* will help restore the CVF by temporarily adding excess funding from the False Claims Act to the CVF to ensure that vital victim services remain available. I urge you to co-sponsor and support this bipartisan bill to restore funding for survivors of crime. Thank you."

Unbranded Action Alert for Organizations

Urge Congress to Pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* (H.R.8061/S.4514)

Join with local, state and national organizations on Tuesday, September 10th for a national day of action to urge Congress to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* (CVFSA) (S.4514/H.R.8061) this year. We're up to 134 cosponsors in the House for H.R. 8061 – let's get to 218 by the end of September and get this bill to the President by the end of the year! **Use this [toolkit](#) for scripts, sample emails, social media posts, and contact information. Act now and forward widely!**

A 40% cut to Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding is forcing victim service programs to reduce or eliminate services, lay off staff, and, in some cases, close their doors.

VOCA uses funds from the Crime Victims Fund (CVF) to support services to over six million victims annually through almost 6,500 direct service organizations, including domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and child advocacy centers/child sexual abuse treatment programs. However, decreased deposits into the CVF have led Congress to cut funding by approximately \$600 million and, as a result, countless victims in crisis will not be able to find help.

The *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* directs excess funds collected through the False Claims Act (FCA) into the CVF through Fiscal Year 2029. Learn more [here](#).

Join us in urging your Members of Congress to cosponsor and pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* and help domestic violence programs, rape crisis centers, child advocacy centers, and other victim service organizations keep their doors open.

Congress must support and pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* (H.R.8061/S.4514) to provide lifesaving services to survivors.

Additional action is needed for VOCA in FY25 Federal Appropriations!

Congress must provide steady funding in FY25:

- Provide \$1.9 billion in steady funding from the CVF, restoring funding to FY23 levels.
- Support a continued federal funding stream from VOCA for tribes. Individuals on tribal lands experience disproportionately high rates of domestic and sexual violence and need funding for victim services.

- Reject proposals that use the VOCA fund to pay for other Department of Justice programs, which reduces funding for direct victim services.

The Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act: Fact Sheet

What is the Victims of Crime Act?

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) was signed into law in 1984 and created the Crime Victims Fund (CVF). The CVF comprises monetary penalties associated with federal criminal convictions and, since July of 2021, federal criminal deferred prosecution and non-prosecution agreements. VOCA is the primary source of federal grant funding for victim services, including services for survivors of domestic violence, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, stalking, trafficking, attempted homicide, drunk/drug-impaired driving, and other crimes. It also matches 75% of eligible state victim compensation funding. Every year, Congress decides how much money to release from the CVF as part of the annual appropriations process. *VOCA is not funded by taxpayers.*

The problem

Deposits into the CVF fluctuate annually, depending on what cases the Department of Justice prosecutes and settles. Even taking into account natural fluctuations, deposits into the CVF have dropped dramatically since 2018. From 2008 to 2017, deposits averaged \$2.56 billion annually; from 2018 through 2023, annual deposits averaged only \$737 million. Consequently, the CVF has been depleted, resulting in a **\$630 million cut to victim services in FY24**. As of August, 2024, less than two months before the beginning of the next fiscal year, the unobligated, unencumbered balance of the CVF is less than \$300 million - only 15% of what is needed to restore funding to FY23 levels.

The Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024 (H.R.8061/S.4514)

In order to stabilize the balance of the CVF and prevent further cuts to VOCA grants, the bipartisan *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*, introduced by Representatives Ann Wagner (R-MO-2), Nathan Moran (R-TX-1), Debbie Dingell (D-MI-6), Stephanie Bice (R-OK-5), and Jim Costa (D-CA-21), and Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), adds excess funds from the False Claims Act to the Crime Victims Fund for five years.

What is the False Claims Act?

The False Claims Act (FCA) “provides that any person who knowingly submits, or causes to submit, false claims to [or otherwise defrauds] the [federal] government is liable for three times the government’s damages plus a penalty that is linked to inflation.”¹ Because these are civil rather than criminal penalties, they are not currently deposited into the CVF. In FY22, the Department of Justice obtained more than \$2.2 billion from FCA actions. Some of these receipts are transferred to the defrauded agencies to restore what was stolen, and some are paid to qui tam whistleblowers. But much of the receipts are unobligated and are deposited into the general fund of the U.S. Treasury.

¹ <https://www.justice.gov/civil/false-claims-act>

How is the False Claims Act related to VOCA?

The VOCA statute already references the False Claims Act, allowing the Director to use False Claims Act funding to support victim services subject to appropriation,² but funds are functionally inaccessible due to procedural barriers. Depositing FCA penalties directly into the CVF would ensure they are available for victim services.

Didn't the VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act address the CVF shortfall?

In July of 2021, Congress passed the *VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021* to address declining deposits into the CVF. Prior to the *VOCA Fix*, only monetary penalties associated with federal criminal convictions were deposited into the CVF. The *VOCA Fix* added monetary penalties associated with deferred and non-prosecution agreements to the CVF. The *VOCA Fix* helped, with monetary penalties associated with deferred- and non-prosecution agreements comprising more than 60% of deposits in FY22 and 20% of deposits in FY23,³ but it did not fully fix the issue. Based on historical trends, the *VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act* ought to have addressed the low deposits. However, receipts from these sources are also far lower than the historical norm, and they have been insufficient to fully restore annual deposits.

Would this be using taxpayer money to fund VOCA?

No. The FCA is non-taxpayer money.

Will this change harm whistleblowers?

No! The *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024* explicitly provides that whistleblowers and federal agencies are paid first. Only the money left over after that happens is deposited into the CVF.

Is the change permanent?

No. The change depositing FCA receipts to the CVF sunsets after five years, which will allow Congress to assess its impact and conduct oversight before renewing it.

Contact dedwards@nca-online.org, rgraber@jwi.org, terri@endsexualviolence.org, and mmilazzo@nnedv.org for more information.

² 34 USC § 20102

³ <https://ovc.ojp.gov/about/crime-victims-fund/fy-2007-2023-cvf-annual-receipts.pdf>

Contacting Your Members of Congress

Contacting your Members of Congress is easy! See below for a step-by-step guide.

1. Identify your Members of Congress. You can find your Senator at <https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact> and your Representative at https://ziplook.house.gov/htbin/findrep_house?ZIP=.
2. To contact your Senators and Representative by phone, call the US Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 or find their phone numbers on their websites.
3. To contact your Senators and Representatives by email, go to their website and click on the 'contact us' link. If you know someone in your Senators' and/or Representative's office, contact them directly.
4. You can use the call script and sample email below, or you can use the previous fact sheet and the talking points below to craft your own!

Click to Email and Tweet

Click [here](#) to automatically email your members of Congress - and please personalize the email with information about the local impact if you can for greater impact!

Click [here](#) to automatically tweet your members of Congress - and please personalize the tweet with information about the local impact if you can for greater impact!

Using these links will not subscribe you to any email lists.

Call Script

House call script:

Hello, my name is [your name], and I'm a constituent from [your city and state and, if applicable, your organization]. I'm calling to urge Representative [Representative's name] to support H.R.8061, the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*.

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) is the primary source of federal funding for victim services, supporting survivors of domestic violence, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, and other serious crimes. However, due to a significant drop in deposits into the Crime Victims Fund (CVF), funding for these critical services has been severely cut.

[Explain how these cuts have impacted your community. Ex: survivors of sexual violence now wait an average of 12 weeks to receive services. It was previously 6.]

The *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* will help restore the CVF by temporarily adding excess funds from the False Claims Act to the Crime Victims Fund to ensure that vital victim services remain available. This is not taxpayer money—it comes from penalties paid by wrongdoers, and it is essential for supporting victims. I urge Representative [Representative's name] to cosponsor and support this bipartisan bill to restore funding for survivors of crime.

Senate call script:

Hello, my name is [your name], and I'm a constituent from [your city and state and, if applicable, your organization]. I'm calling to urge Senator [Senator's name] to support S.4514, the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*.

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) is the primary source of federal funding for victim services, supporting survivors of domestic violence, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, and other serious crimes. However, due to a significant drop in deposits into the Crime Victims Fund (CVF), funding for these critical services has been severely cut.

[Explain how these cuts have impacted your community. Ex: survivors of sexual violence now wait an average of 12 weeks to receive services. It was previously 6.]

The *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* will help restore the CVF by temporarily adding excess funds from the False Claims Act and other sources to ensure that vital victim services remain available. This is not taxpayer money—it comes from penalties paid by wrongdoers, and it is essential for supporting victims. I urge [Senator's name] to cosponsor and support this bipartisan bill to protect funding for survivors of crime.

Email Script

Senate email script:

My name is [your name], and I am a constituent from [your city, state, and, if applicable, organization]. I work for [local program/coalition], and I am urging Senator [Senator's name] to please take action to prevent continued devastating cuts to the Victims of Crime Act grants. VOCA is funded by the Crime Victims Fund (CVF). The CVF is the nation's largest funding source that supports survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, child sexual abuse, and so many other crimes. Victims and victim service programs in our community are suffering greatly due to continuous cuts to this essential funding source, and we need Congress to pass S.4514, the bipartisan *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*. This timely legislation will help restore the CVF by adding excess funds from the False Claims Act to ensure that vital victim services are preserved.

[Explain the impact of cuts on your community if you can]

Victim service grants were already cut by 40% in FY24, and without immediate action by Congress, victim services in the US are facing even further catastrophic cuts. On behalf of my community, **I respectfully urge you to cosponsor and work with leadership to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* this year.**

House email script:

My name is [your name], and I am a constituent from [your city, state, and, if applicable, organization]. I am urging Representative [Representative's name] to please take action to prevent continued devastating cuts to the Victims of Crime Act's grants. VOCA is funded by the Crime Victims Fund (CVF). The CVF is the nation's largest funding source that supports survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, child sexual abuse, and so many other crimes. Victims and victim service programs in our community are suffering greatly due to continuous cuts to this essential funding source, and we need Congress to pass H.R. 8061, the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act*. This timely legislation will help restore the CVF by adding excess funds from the False Claims Act and other sources to ensure that vital victim services are preserved.

[Explain the impact of cuts on your community if you can]

Victim service grants were already cut by 40% in FY24, and without immediate action by Congress, victim services in the US are facing even further catastrophic cuts. On behalf of my community, **I respectfully urge you to cosponsor and work with leadership to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* this year.**

SHARE THE MOST COMPELLING SURVIVOR-CENTERED POINT YOU HAVE

For example:

“If Congress fails to act,

- we will have to close our statewide hotline leaving survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence with no one to call
- we have to layoff X number of advocates, which will increase the wait time for survivors of sexual violence to access counseling, and we know trauma does not wait
- we will have to reduce X services (housing, legal, counseling, shelter, etc), which will lead to increased survivor homelessness
- X number of survivors will be unable to access lifesaving services”

Letter to the Editor and Op-Ed Templates

Op-ed template:

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), passed in 1984, has been a cornerstone in supporting victims of crime across the United States. Through the Crime Victims Fund (CVF), VOCA provides essential funding for services that help survivors of domestic violence, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, elder abuse, trafficking, gun violence, drunk driving, community violence, and other heinous crimes rebuild their lives. However, in recent years, the CVF has been dangerously depleted, threatening the availability of these vital services.

Deposits into the CVF, which come from monetary penalties paid by federal offenders, have dropped precipitously since 2018. While the *VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021* provided some relief by adding new sources of deposits, it has not been enough to restore the fund to sustainable levels. As a result, victim service providers across the country are facing severe budget cuts, leaving some of our most vulnerable citizens without the support they desperately need.

In Fiscal Year 2024, Congress cut victim services grants by \$630 million, or 40%. The victim service field cannot absorb a cut of this magnitude. **[Explain the impact of the cuts on your community.]** And now, with the unobligated and unencumbered balance of the Fund at less than \$300 million—down from more than \$13 billion just seven years ago—programs may be facing even more severe cuts. **[Explain impact of potential additional cuts.]**

This is why Congress must act swiftly to pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*. This bipartisan bill, introduced by leaders in both the House and Senate, offers a practical solution by directing additional non-taxpayer money—specifically, excess funds from the *False Claims Act*—into the CVF. This change will help stabilize the Fund and ensure that victim services can continue without further disruption.

Critically, this legislation is designed with checks and balances. It ensures that whistleblowers and federal agencies are compensated first, with only the remaining funds being directed to the CVF. Moreover, this change is not permanent; it will sunset after five years, allowing Congress to review its effectiveness and make adjustments as necessary.

The stakes are too high to ignore. Without prompt action, the continued depletion of the CVF will lead to more cuts in services that are essential for victims' recovery and safety. Congress must pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* to protect these crucial resources and uphold our nation's commitment to supporting victims of crime. I call on Senators **[your Senators' names]** and Representative **[your Representative's name]** to do everything in their power to ensure the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* passes Congress expeditiously and is sent to the President for his signature.

Letter to the editor template

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) is a lifeline for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, and other crimes, providing crucial funding for victim services nationwide. However, in recent years, deposits into VOCA's Crime Victims Fund (CVF) have dropped dramatically, leading to severe cuts in these essential services.

[Describe the impact of cuts in your community]

The bipartisan *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*, now before Congress, offers a practical solution. By adding excess funds from the False Claims Act to the CVF, this bill will help stabilize the Fund without using taxpayer money. This change will ensure that services for crime victims remain available, while still prioritizing compensation for whistleblowers and federal agencies.

Time is running out. Without prompt action, the continued depletion of the CVF will result in more cuts to the services that victims rely on to heal and rebuild their lives. Congress must pass the *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act* to protect these vital resources and uphold our nation's commitment to supporting crime victims.

I urge our lawmakers to support this critical legislation and ensure that no survivor is left without the help they need.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your City, State]

Media Pitch

Media placements are a great opportunity to take a multipronged approach to continue our advocacy to prevent future VOCA funding cuts. These placements inform your community of how devastating these impacts will be and they also put pressure on your Members of Congress to bridge VOCA funding. Use the below sample pitch to reach out to your local papers. **Please modify as you see fit.**

- Contact journalists you've worked with before or journalists who cover topics in your field. If you are not sure who to reach out to, search on your local paper's website using key terms such as, "domestic violence, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, elder abuse, crime victim services," and reach out to those reporters. Oftentimes, local papers will have a general info@ email and that is also fine to reach out to.
- Adjust this pitch to reflect the voice and story of your organization:

Dear _____,

I appreciate your reporting on _____ [issue or reference previous article] in our community. I want to inform you of another timely local news item that will severely impact (city/county/state)'s ability to support victims/survivors of crime. I would be grateful for your consideration in covering this story.

The Victims of Crime Act's (VOCA) Crime Victims Fund (CVF) is the largest federal funding source and backbone of the nation's response to supporting crime victims. Here at [Organization Name], it allows us to _____ [List 1-2 key areas VOCA funding supports your program]. We are merely one of thousands of organizations nationwide who experienced a 40% cut in vital VOCA funding a few months ago, and we are concerned about the ongoing instability and lack of Congressional action. These funds allow us to support survivors at critical times and assist them through their unique healing and recovery journeys. However, due to ongoing instability, we are at risk of losing these supportive services. For our program this could mean _____ [include a short story of how these funding cuts will impact survivors in your community].

In order to stabilize the balance of the CVF and prevent further cuts to VOCA grants, the bipartisan *Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024*, introduced by Representatives Ann Wagner (R-MO-2), Nathan Moran (R-TX-1), Debbie Dingell (D-MI-6), Stephanie Bice (R-OK-5), and Jim Costa (D-CA-21), and Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), adds excess funds from the False Claims Act to the Crime Victims Fund for five years. As Congress pushes this bill through both Houses, we need them to recognize who this funding shortfall burden falls on – victims of crime. I would be happy to talk with you over the phone and I can also connect you with _____ [add others from your organization or community partners who can speak about pending VOCA cuts].

Thank you for considering this request and I look forward to answering any questions you may have.

Sample Media Talking Points

If the journalist is interested in speaking with you or others in your community, we encourage you to use the below talking points to prepare for your interview. Make sure to customize the talking points:

- Understanding the Current Landscape
 - The federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) fund is the largest funding source for victim services throughout the country.
 - VOCA funds are not taxpayer dollars. The funding source, rather, is federal fines and fees, including, for example, white collar settlements.
 - Due to issues with these funding sources, the VOCA fund is experienced a \$630 million shortfall in FY24. This equated to about a 40% funding cut to our program.
 - The fund continues to be unstable and is not able to replenish at the rate needed to payout programs like ours.
- What does VOCA fund?
 - VOCA funds essential services that crime victims need to be safe and heal.
 - VOCA is the backbone of our response to a range of vital crime victims' needs including:
 - Child advocacy centers/child sexual abuse programs and Court Appointed Special Advocates
 - Rape crisis centers and domestic violence programs
 - Legal assistance for crime survivors
 - District Attorney Associations
 - Underserved communities
 - Human trafficking agencies
 - Other critical needs for survivors
 - Emphasize how VOCA has allowed you to support survivors – draw from data or stories. You can reference NNEDV and NAESV's [state report](#).
- How cuts will impact survivors and your community
 - Journalists want to understand how these cuts will impact the community they cover. Try to paint as broad of a picture as possible.
 - Due to funding instability and the recent 40% cut to funding, our program is at risk of losing even more.
 - Provide examples of how these cuts will impact your programs **and** what that means for survivors. Below are some examples:
 - Increased wait times to support survivors - some survivors may not feel comfortable coming back and asking for help multiple times
 - Staff layoffs - we are already understaffed and reducing our capacity would reduce the number of survivors we serve in our community

- Decrease in access to safe housing leading to increased survivor homelessness
- Message to Congress
 - Congress can play a pivotal role in addressing this gap in funding and now is the time!
 - Congress must pass H.R. 8061/S. 4514. This important piece of legislation will excess funds from the False Claims Act to the Crime Victims Fund for five years.
 - Advocates across the nation are pushing for the passage of this bill. We recognize how monumental this would be for crime victim services.
 - We're asking community members to join us in urging ____ (name your members of Congress) to cosponsor H.R. 8061/S.4514.
 - Without this funding, crime survivors will be left without support and forced to process their trauma on their own.