

Funding Concerns Continue for N.C. Crime Victim Services Providers

In 2025, federal VOCA funding is projected to stand at its lowest level in a decade, challenging providers who rely on the grants to deliver services to local communities.

What Is the U.S. Victims of Crime Act?

The Victims of Crime Act, passed by Congress in 1984, provides a critical funding source for programs that support crime victims in North Carolina. The act established a Crime Victims Fund that helps direct-services organizations across the country support millions of crime survivors. Federal dollars, distributed to each state, support organizations including:

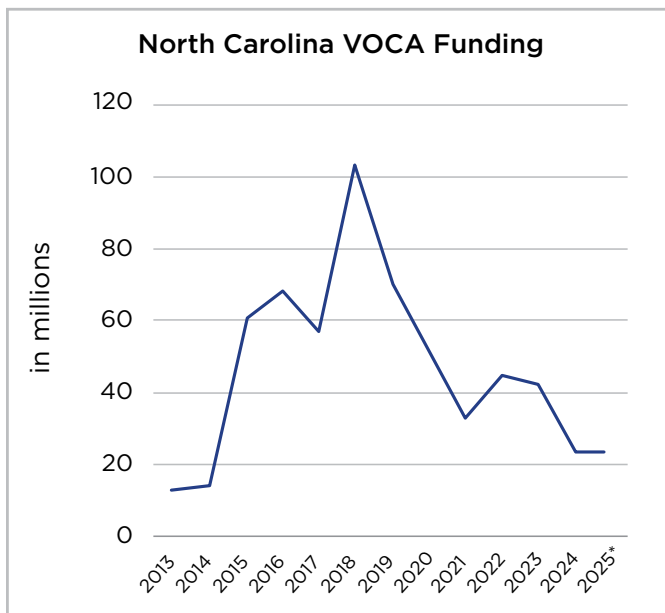
- domestic violence shelters
- rape crisis centers
- programs for family members of homicide victims
- child advocacy centers
- financial crime services
- elder abuse responses

How Does VOCA and the Crime Victims Fund Support Victims in North Carolina?

The Governor's Crime Commission administers federal VOCA funding through competitive grant awards to nonprofits and government agencies that provide services to victims. This may include crisis intervention, emergency shelter, counseling and other direct services. VOCA funds also support the state's Victim Compensation Program, which reimburses eligible out-of-pocket expenses paid by victims.

What Is the Problem with VOCA's Crime Victims Fund?

Funding levels are dropping. The CVF is financed by federal criminal fines, fees, penalties and special assessments. Its receipts have fallen significantly, challenging the health of the fund. Victim services providers cannot make up this difference through local fundraising alone.



* projected

- In 2018, NC received \$103 million.
- In 2024, NC received only \$24.6 million.
- In 2025, NC is projected to again receive less than \$25 million.

What Can I Do?

- ✓ Educate your neighbors and your elected officials.
- ✓ Support local programs with volunteer time, money and donated goods.
- ✓ Help direct-services organizations identify new funding sources.

Learn more about VOCA from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime. [ovc.ojp.gov](https://www.ojc.dhs.gov)



Governor's Crime Commission
NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY