



## Latest on VOCA - One-Time Funding Temporarily Restores Support for Crime Victims

*Update by California Partnership to  
End Domestic Violence (CPEDV)*

Despite significant federal reductions, The Victims of Crime Act of 1984, or VOCA is temporarily saved in California's latest budget. Governor Newsom approved a \$103 million allocation at the end of June as one-time funding for victims of crime service programs.

Grace Glaser of VALOR, part of the California VOCA Advocacy Alliance, issued this statement in response:

“Last year, Congress tore survivors’ safety net in half with their failure to prevent a 44.7% reduction in crime victims’ services. Governor Newsom and the legislature have temporarily stitched it back together with their commitment to one-time backfill funding, ensuring that for now, victims will receive support during the most traumatic and dangerous times of their lives.

This is the result of efforts from hundreds of advocates and survivors urging California to step up. Their rallying cry was, “Don’t balance the budget on the backs of survivors!” Assemblymember Eloise Gómez Reyes led the effort from the legislature, gathering support from over half of the Assembly and numerous Senators.

The Governor and the Legislature have shown that they understand the need for victims’ services, which are core to California’s safety net and helped 816,000 victims of sexual and domestic violence, child abuse, human trafficking, and so many others between FY 2021 and 2022. The investment in the state budget will allow organizations to provide services for survivors in 2024. For some organizations, it will prevent increased wait times and even office closures in rural communities. The High Desert Region’s Partners

Against Violence will now be able to keep their satellite office open. Empower Yolo now hopes to reopen their West Sacramento location after federal funding losses prevented them from renewing their lease.

This means that when survivors call a crisis hotline, there will be an advocate on the other end to answer; that survivors will be able to access shelter when they must flee from violence or lose their housing; that sexual assault survivors will have the support of an advocate during a medical exam; that children will feel supported and safe during forensic interviews; and so much more.

However, funding remains precarious and reductions will likely occur in the near future if federal funding does not rebound in this federal fiscal year, or without state support in the years ahead. We are grateful to the legislature for including ongoing funding in their initial budget plan, and will work to secure that commitment in future years to provide needed stability to survivors and service providers across the state.

To create a safer California, survivors must be able to process their trauma, meet their basic needs and begin to heal. Our coalition will be back next year, urging Governor Newsom and the Legislature to prioritize the needs of survivors of crime on an ongoing basis.”



*A Safe Place Executive Director Carolyn Russell and Dr. Sarai Crain bid farewell to Devon and team.*

## A Farewell Event for Men Creating Peace

A Safe Place bids farewell to Devon Gaster, CEO of Men Creating Peace, as they close their doors. This highly respected non-profit and long-term partner of A Safe Place has done amazing work in the community. For 17 years, Devon and his team have worked diligently to decrease domestic violence through their various violence and anger intervention programs. MCP has worked with people to help them restore connections to themselves, their intimate partner, their families, and their community. Participants of this education program learn new, healthy techniques of communication in a safe environment.

Devon and MCP will be greatly missed in our community.

Farewell, Devon!



# WE ARE



More Details:



A Safe Place Domestic Violence Program has both full-time and part-time job opportunities for Psychotherapists!

- MSW, ASW, MFT, and licensed therapists of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
- A Safe Place provides free clinical supervision to ASWs and MFTs.
- Rate of Pay: Negotiable based on experience

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our team!

Exciting opportunities await!  
Please call **510.986.8600X315**

A Safe Place is an equal opportunity employer.

## Psychotherapists Still Needed - Clinical Supervision Provided

View the flyer for more  
information!



## Coming Soon: Professional Development Training!

We will soon be offering  
certification for professionals.  
Call our office for more  
information.

**Call 510-986-8600**

# Become Certified with A Safe Place



## 40-Hour Domestic Violence Training for Professionals!

VISIT: [asafeplace.org/professional-development](https://asafeplace.org/professional-development)



MANDATORY ORIENTATION:

**TBD - Contact Office**

2024 TRAINING START DATES:

**TBD - Contact Office**

**ABOUT:** A Safe Place offers training workshops in domestic violence and intimate partner abuse that can be used for professional development and is required for anyone who wishes to become certified at A Safe Place.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
**CALL 510-986-8600**  
[asafeplace.org](https://asafeplace.org)



## Legislative Updates

Please visit the California bill chart linked below for the most up-to-date policy positions, courtesy of California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV).

[View Policy Positions Here](#)

### Know Your Rights: Move-Out Orders and Orders to Pay Rent

Under California law, a domestic violence restraining order can require the offender to leave the shared home and continue paying their share of the rent or mortgage.

[Learn More Here](#)

### Surgeon General's Advisory on Firearm Violence

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy



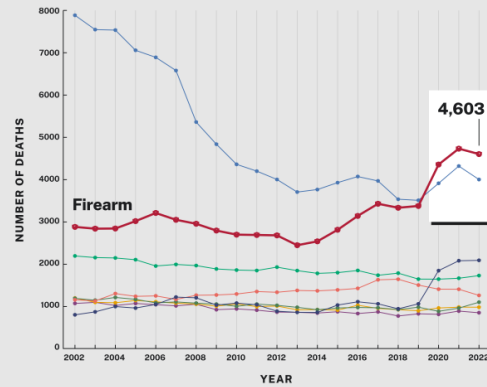
recently released a landmark Advisory on Firearm Violence, where he declares firearm violence in America a public health crisis. Key findings are summarized below:

**Gun Violence Key Findings**

**Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and adolescents**

1-19 years of age in the United States, 2002-2022

- Firearm
- Motor Vehicle
- Poisoning (Drug and Non-drug)
- Cancer
- Suffocation
- Congenital Anomalies
- Drowning
- Cardiovascular Disease



Source: Adapted from Goldstick, J. E., Cunningham, R. M., & Carter, P. M. (2022). Current causes of death in children and adolescents in the United States. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 386(20), 1955-1956. Underlying cause of death data from CDC WONDER. Office of the U.S. Surgeon General

**Volunteer Corner**

Our next volunteer training is coming in spring 2025! Fill out the volunteer application form on our website, and our office will contact you with updated information.

**Apply Here**



**Next volunteer training in spring 2025!**

**Ways To Support**

Give a gift to A Safe Place to support survivors of domestic violence. Your contribution goes beyond a donation; it's a lifeline for survivors and their families. Explore our Gift Catalogue and choose a meaningful way to make a lasting impact.



**1 - Shelter Nights (\$50)**

Provide a safe haven for a survivor and their child for one night. Your gift ensures a warm bed, security, and support.

[Click Here](#)

**2 - Trauma Counseling Session (\$55)**

Support a survivor's journey to healing through a professional counseling session. Your contribution brings



hope and resilience.

[Click Here](#)



### 3 - Children's Therapy (\$50)

Provides mental health services for children who have witnessed domestic violence.

[Click Here](#)



### 4 - Emergency Food and Clothing (\$50)

Provide basic needs to survivors, offering comfort in times of crisis. Your gift ensures access to nutritious meals and essential clothing.

[Click Here](#)



### 5 - Monthly DV Service Sustainer (\$50)

Join our Monthly Sustainer Program to provide ongoing support. Your recurring gift makes a lasting impact on survivors' lives.

[Call our office for more info](#)



### 6 - Teen Dating Violence Prevention (\$50)

Educate teens about warning signs and other information on preventing domestic violence.

[Click Here](#)



### 7 - Community Outreach (\$50)

Support educational programs to prevent domestic violence in communities. Your contribution helps break the cycle before it begins.

[Click Here](#)



### 8 - Legal Services (\$100)

Empower survivors with the legal support needed to break free from abusive relationships. Your gift helps secure restraining orders, custody agreements, and one-on-one consultations with attorneys.

[Click Here](#)

### 9 - Full Support Package (\$250)

Cover a comprehensive support package, including



shelter, counseling, legal assistance, and more.  
Your generous donation transforms lives.

[Click Here](#)

### 10 - Join *Friends of A Safe Place*

Volunteers help with friend-raising and fundraising outreach to community members and donors.

### 11 - Employee Matching Gift

If your company has a charitable giving program, email us at [grants@asafeplace.org](mailto:grants@asafeplace.org) to learn more.

### 12 - Host a Facebook Birthday Fundraiser

We have social media tools to share if you need them - just email us at [grants@asafeplace.org](mailto:grants@asafeplace.org).

### 13 - Donate in Someone's Memory

Losing a loved one is difficult. Their generosity and unwavering commitment to making a positive difference remain meaningful even beyond death. Honor a loved one by donating any amount at [www.asafeplace.org/donate](http://www.asafeplace.org/donate)

Your generosity creates ripples of change, providing safety and hope to those who need it most. Thank you for being a beacon of light in the fight against domestic violence.

*A Safe Place | Breaking the Cycle, Changing a Life*

[Donate](#)

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