

**Yolo County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP)  
2022-23 Program Summary**

**AB-109 Victim Services Advocate  
2022-23 CCP Funding Summary**

**CCP Funds:** \$92,544  
Department Allocation

**Other Funding:** \$  
List funding source

**CCP Strategic Plan Outcome/Strategy(s) Supported**

Outcomes:

- Victim assistance to clientele not covered by other grants.
- Compliance to AB-109 county requirements for victim needs.
- Absorption of other legislative changes required to be fulfilled for state compliance with victim issues.

Strategy:

- Utilize California Constitution Prop 9 – Marsy’s Law
- Stay apprised of state legislative changes to ensure best practices on changes affecting victims and keep Yolo County in compliance.
- Advocate for an additional advocate to assist in endeavors as caseload continues to increase.

**Use of Funding**

Staffing:

1. 100% FTE AB-109 Advocate-Provides advocacy to victims whose cases fall under AB109, Require notifications from CDCR, Prop 57, and SB-483

**Program Description**

Victim advocates are trained to support victims of crime. They offer emotional support, victims’ rights information, help in finding needed resources, and assistance in filling out crime victim related forms. Our advocates frequently accompany victims and their family members through the criminal justice proceedings. Advocates work with other organizations, such as criminal justice or social service agencies, to get help or information for the victims we serve. Victim advocates’ responsibilities vary depending on the victim’s situation. Victim Services heavily relies on volunteers. Some of our volunteers are survivors who have chosen to help others who are going through their own healing process.

Victim Services received 3,867 referrals in 2022-2023. The caseloads of advocates was assigned as follows, with the AB-109 advocate’s emphasized: Angelica Saldana (152); Julia Hernandez (211); Kenya Salazar-Campos (153); Deissi Munoz (72); **Heather Blair (695 total = 535 referrals, 72 CDCR notices of release, 48 Prop 57; 27 PC 1171.1, 13 SB 384)**; Jessica Davis (53); Rene Nevarez (3); Yesenia Vazquez (155); Estela Morales (138); Laura Valdes (2,373).

The AB109 Victim Advocate position has been filled since May 2014 and provides support and services to crime victims that are not covered by other funding sources and at stages of the criminal justice system not covered by other advocate positions. The existence of this position ensures that the Victim Services program is meeting the needs of victims effected by continuous criminal justice reform. **From 2014-2020, over 4,000 new criminal cases have been assigned to this position.** Realignment programs handled by this position include:

**1. Pre-charging and post-charging AB109 cases**

-county prison eligible criminal cases and cases where the

## Yolo County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) 2022-23 Program Summary

offenders are on an active grant of Mandatory Supervision or Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS)

### 2. **California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) notification cases**

-providing notice of the release of inmates from CDCR and connecting victims to the supervising agencies

### 3. **Prop 57 nonviolent offender parole review cases**

-providing notice of possible early parole and a victims' right to comment to the Board of Parole, Executive Clemency cases

### 4. **Day Reporting Center (DRC) Victim Awareness Class**

-a restorative justice based and trauma informed course where offenders discover and discuss the realities of victimhood. Based on this unique case load). (In FY 2022- 2023 the AB109, Victim Awareness Classes for the Day Reporting Center (DRC) were suspended. They are to resume during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.)

### 5. **SB-483 - Resentencing under PC 1171 and PC 1171.1 and SB 384-California Tiered Sex Offender Registration.**

Providing notification to victims of crime about changes in the law ensures transparency, continuity of information, and ensures that victims are not misinformed by other sources. Assist with resources for relived past trauma.

A dedicated AB-109 advocate allows for victims, who would otherwise not be assigned to general advocates due to the grants covering those positions being for a different crime type to receive much needed services. The AB-109 advocate remains informed of all new law changes, affecting those victims who don't fall under the general grant and ensures their needs are met. With a growing caseload, that only seems to swell with each passing year and with legislative changes, the AB-109 advocate continues to strive to provide the best services to an outstanding number of clients in her caseload that outnumber all other positions in the program. Even with this swollen assignment the following are a few comments made by recipients of the advocate's work:

- *"Heather was very thorough, and I truly felt I had a voice in the criminal justice system because of her representation" -AD, survivor of crime*
- *"We were in disbelief when Heather called us to inform us our son's murderer would be released almost 2 years early. If not for her, we probably wouldn't have been notified! Although we inappropriately released out frustrations on her, she was a godsent. Thank you Heather" – Mother of homicide victim RDR*
- *"CDCR contacted me, through email, and informed me my assailant escaped from prison. Then another email came that he was deceased, then another that he had escaped again! I wasn't sure what to do. I was so scared! I felt revictimized! Heather helped me sort it out with*

## Yolo County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) 2022-23 Program Summary

*CDCR. She did all the footwork and helped me compose a security plan.” – BH, Victim of crime*

- Although the AB-109 advocate carries a caseload designed for 2-3 people, she still managed to provide positive outcomes for her clients.

Nobody plans to become a victim of crime. A victim goes through the same process, regardless of whether it’s considered a violent crime or not. This position covers most cases that are NOT covered by other grants that fund Victim Services. If this position were no longer in existence, many would be turned away because other funding sources don’t require services to victims of crimes AB-109 creates. With this position’s funding the advocate will continue to ensure there is a direct connection and collaboration with CDCR, Parole, Probation, DOJ, Youth detention centers and other agencies not utilized on a mundane basis by other grant advocates.

### PM#1: How Much Did We Do?

- 535- referrals AB-109 CJS referrals
- 72- CDCR Notices of Release
- 48- Prop 57 Parole Review cases
- 27- PC 1171.1 Resentencing cases
- 13- SB 384-Tiered Sex Offender Registration

### PM#2: How Well Did We Do It?

- 45% Victim Satisfaction Surveys returned
- 92% of Victims express “Satisfactory” or better
- 68% of new victims submitted CalVCB application for compensation
- 88% of CJS cases has a Restitution Order

### PM#3: Is Anyone Better Off?

- 95% of victims assisted would not qualify for services if not for this grant.