

<i>Tab</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Option</i>	<i>Version</i>
268	1	B	1

Specifically, these advocates would: identify and remove barriers to accessing services and obtaining justice; assist survivors with access to specific services; engage in outreach, community engagement and interagency collaboration; and provide information, support, training and consultation to friends, family, community members and professionals supporting survivors.

Mobile, flexible domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy is a promising practice based on the “Domestic Violence Housing First” (DVHF) model, a project of the WA State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV), funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It focuses on helping survivors and their children rapidly access new housing, or retain their current housing, and maintain safety and stability in their housing. The key elements to this promising approach are that advocates (1) provide individualized, flexible, and mobile assistance within survivors’ chosen communities; (2) provide flexible funding to meet immediate needs related to housing and safety; (3) work directly with landlords and public housing authorities to expand options for survivors; and (4) use a trauma-informed lens to respond to survivors’ and children’s needs related not only to past victimization but to ongoing threats, sabotage and violence.

The Mayor’s Proposed 2018 Budget added \$500,000 to Finance General to support adult and child survivors of sexual abuse as part of the City's gender-based violence portfolio. Services may include crisis intervention, information and referral services, general advocacy, medical advocacy, and legal advocacy. The priority for this funding will be to provide person-centered interventions in order to address and prevent long-term health and mental health issues. It is Council's understanding that \$100,000 is planned for funding the Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence and the remaining \$400,000 will be used for other services as described above (of which \$225,000 could be used to expand funding for two flexible and mobile advocates). This additional \$400,000 would increase the total additional funding for flexible and mobile advocates to \$625,000 (five advocates).

This green sheet also imposes the following proviso:

"Of the appropriation in the 2018 budget for the Human Services Department, \$400,000 is appropriated solely for funding flexible and mobile advocates for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and may be spent for no other purpose."

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268	1	B	1

Budget Action Transactions

Budget Action Title: Add \$400,000 GSF to HSD and impose a proviso for flexible and mobile advocates to assist DVSA survivors

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BCL or Revenue Source	Summit Code	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase GSF support for mobile DVSA advocates				FG	Human Services Operating Fund	Q5971620	00100	2018		\$400,000
2	Increase revenue from GSF for mobile DVSA advocates				HSD	General Subfund Support	587001	16200	2018	\$400,000	
3	Increase appropriations for mobile DVSA advocates				HSD	Leadership and Administration	H50LA	16200	2018		\$400,000