Candidate Survey

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Return survey by October 9, 2026 to: andvsa@andvsa.org
Complete each answer box and select one response where choices are provided.

Name

Sara Hannan

Office/District Representation You Are Seeking

HD 4

Please indicate whether you view domestic violence and sexual assault as an area of primary concern for you.

○ Primary concern ○ Secondary concern ○ Not on my radar

Are you familiar with local programs that provide domestic violence and sexual assault services to victims across Alaska?

◉ Yes ○ Somewhat ○ No

If yes, how often do you interact with the domestic violence/sexual assault shelter or victim services program in your area?

○ Quarterly ○ Annually ○ Other

If other, please specify

Twice a year

1. The Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) found 57.7% of Alaskan women have experienced intimate partner violence (domestic violence), sexual violence, or both. What is your vision for Alaska when it comes to reducing sexual assault and domestic violence? What steps are you prepared to take to get there?

We must fully and adequately our shelter and emergency programs as well as invest in upstream preven

2. What responsibilities do you believe the Legislature and other elected officials hold in advancing efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault?

see beloe

What efforts have you made at the local, state, and federal level to address domestic violence and sexual assault?

see below

3. Would you be willing to increase the current level of funding for victims' services?
(●) Yes ( ) No ( ) Maybe

4. Would you be willing to increase the current level of funding for domestic violence/sexual assault prevention work?
(●) Yes ( ) No ( ) Maybe

5. Would you be willing to increase the current level of funding for legal services for victims?
(●) Yes ( ) No ( ) Maybe

6. Currently, the domestic violence response is largely a criminal justice response. Do you have ideas for other types of responses? What are they?

see below

7. Do you think the penalties for sexual violence crimes in Alaska are:

○ Too harsh ○ Too soft ○ Just right

What are your reasons?

I do not know. I many cases that make the news it is for what is percieved as lax penalites, but I h

8. Do you think the penalties for domestic violence crimes in Alaska are:

○ Too harsh ○ Too soft ○ Just right

What are your reasons?

see below

9. Would you support funding through the Department of Corrections to engage individuals who choose to harm their partners/families through batterers intervention programming (BIPs)? Do you think this is the responsibility of the government? Why or why not?

see below

What would be your ideas for providing services to people who choose to cause harm to their partners?

see below

10. Do you believe abortion access should be legally protected for survivors of rape or incest?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

11. The state of Alaska is experiencing a housing shortage statewide. This is impacting domestic and sexual violence survivors' ability to move forward with their lives. What would be your ideas to address this?

see below

12. Children are a particularly vulnerable population and may be traumatized by living with an abusive person and witnessing violence perpetrated against a parent or caretaker. What remedies might you suggest to provide protection for these children?

13. A sunset review is a mandatory, periodic evaluation of an executive board or commission to determine if its public benefit justifies its continued existence, funding, and legal authority. The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) in the Department of Public Safety is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2028, and will be reviewed during the next Legislature. Would you support a bill to extend the Council?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Maybe

What are your reasons?

Important work.

14. Please explain any solutions you would propose to support victims and hold offenders accountable for their actions.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey.
To keep your answers, use File > Save As (or Download in your browser).

ANDVSA 2026

1.The Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) found 57.7% of Alaskan women have experienced intimate partner violence (domestic violence), sexual violence, or both. What is your vision for Alaska when it comes to reducing sexual assault and domestic violence? What steps are you prepared to take to get there?

We must fully and adequately our shelter and emergency programs as well as invest in upstream prevention programs. The roots of domestic and sexual violence as deep and complex but work for many of our issues has intersection with other public/behavioral issues. We need to invest in long-term solutions.

2. What responsibilities do you believe the Legislature and other elected officials hold in advancing efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault?

We need to listen to the advocates and experts who we ask to work on these issues. Lip service and acknowledgement are not solutions. We need to get tools into the hands of those who are working on solutions.

What efforts have you made at the local, state, and federal level to address domestic violence and sexual assault?

As a classroom teacher I always made sure to address the topic of healthy relationships. Language and emotions while learning to navigate complex social relationships frames how we see ourselves as well as what is acceptable.

As a state lawmaker I was the prime sponsor of HB48 that secures state financial support for Alaska Legal Services at a higher level. I was also the prime sponsor of HB 242 that closed a loophole in the sexual assault by a medical provider statute.

6. Currently, the domestic violence response is largely a criminal justice response. Do you have ideas for other types of responses? What are they?

Breaking the cycle of violence requires programs working with children and families who are at risk of a criminal justice intervention before it gets to that point. This requires a system of

education and risk assessment that we do not currently have the capacity to address. Nevertheless, it is what we need to strive to do.

7. Do you think the penalties for sexual violence crimes in Alaska are: What are your reasons?

I do not know if our penalties are harsh or soft overall. In many cases that make the news it is for what is perceived as lax penalties, but I have not researched what our overall and by region penalties are.

8. Do you think the penalties for domestic violence crimes in Alaska are:

Similar to above the cases I hear about in the news or from constituents are generally about the sentences being too soft, but I have not researched that to know.

9. Would you support funding through the Department of Corrections to engage individuals who choose to harm their partners/families through batterers intervention programming (BIPs)? Do you think this is the responsibility of the government? Why or why not?

If this is a program that shows success with reduction of violence from offenders then yes. It is the responsibility of government to try and change socially unacceptable behaviors like domestic violence.

11. The state of Alaska is experiencing a housing shortage statewide. This is impacting domestic and sexual violence survivors' ability to move forward with their lives. What would be your ideas to address this?

The housing shortage in Alaska, especially in rural/hub communities, compounds solutions. Building transitional housing for survivors of violence dislocation is one step towards solutions.