



# 2025 IMPACT REPORT

*Standing with Survivors*

The mission of Atlanta Victim Assistance, Inc. is to advocate for the fundamental rights of victims while walking alongside them with compassion, dignity, and respect, and to aid in finding healing and justice.

 [atlantava.org](http://atlantava.org)

 (404) 588-4740

 (678) 857-5457

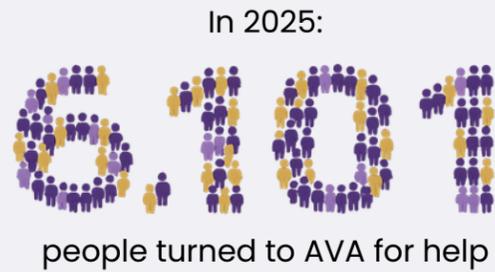
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# AVA

## AT A GLANCE



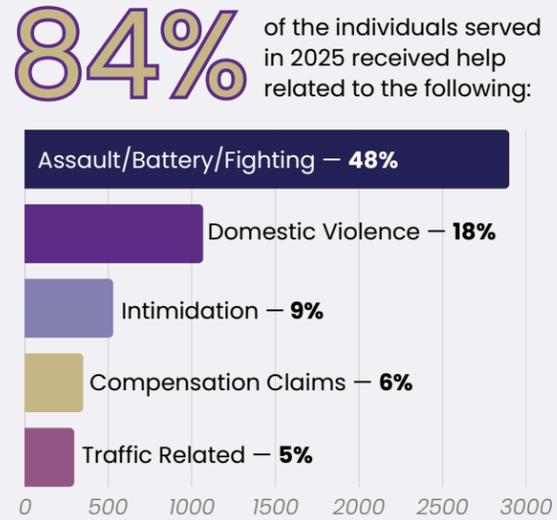
# 24,677

service interactions where AVA advocates walked alongside survivors through multiple moments of need

### WHO WE SERVE:

AVA serves individuals and families affected by crime, including:

- ▶ Assault and Battery
- ▶ Child Abuse
- ▶ Sexual Assault and Rape
- ▶ Elder Abuse
- ▶ Homicide
- ▶ Destruction and Loss of Property
- ▶ Domestic Violence



### WHAT MAKES AVA UNIQUE?

AVA provides support **regardless of arrest status**, ensuring victims and witnesses receive advocacy, resources, and guidance when they need it most.

*“AVA not only helped me, but empowered me to move on with life.”*

—Crime Survivor

### PARTNERSHIPS THAT MAKE HEALING POSSIBLE

Partnerships were central to AVA’s impact in 2025. Through close collaboration with local, state and federal organizations, nonprofit and community organizations, foundations, corporations and more, AVA advocates met survivors where they were—at crime scenes, in hospitals, courtrooms, schools, and homes—ensuring coordinated, compassionate support.



### AVA expands Safety 1<sup>st</sup> program with Atlanta schools to prevent youth violence

AVA is proud to be a part of the solution to stop youth violence. After having successfully operated our Safety 1st school-based advocacy program since 2017 in Maynard Jackson and Carver STEAM high schools, it expanded into Luther J. Price middle school in 2025. Safety 1st offers guidance and support at key developmental stages, especially in environments with high social and economic disparities.

Since its inception, Safety 1<sup>st</sup> has served more than

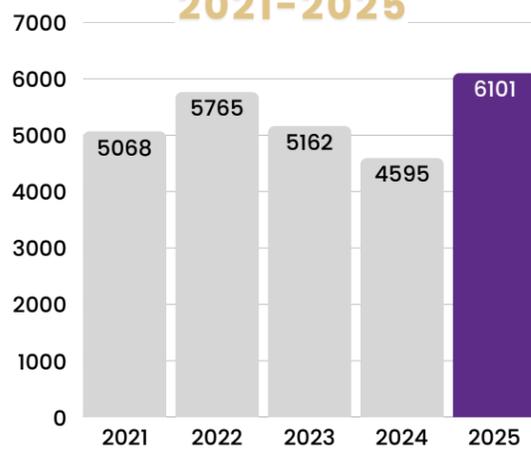


*“This expansion marks a significant step in our commitment to providing critical early intervention for youth affected by violence and crime. By reaching students as young as 11, we can intervene before harmful behaviors escalate, instill resilience, and equip students with the skills to navigate challenges and foster healthy relationships.”*

—Shontel Brunson-Wright  
AVA’s Executive Director

Scan to learn more or visit [atlantava.org/safety1st](http://atlantava.org/safety1st)

### CLIENTS SERVED 2021-2025



AVA has served more than **155K** people since its inception in 1981

### OUR APPROACH:

#### Compassion, Coordination, Continuity

AVA uses a holistic, survivor-centered approach, providing immediate crisis intervention and sustained support after the initial incident.

- ▶ Explain victims’ rights and legal processes.
- ▶ Collaborate closely with law enforcement, hospitals, and community partners.
- ▶ Provide court accompaniment and advocacy.
- ▶ Help coordinate victim compensation and emergency assistance.
- ▶ Connect individuals to housing, counseling, and safety resources.
- ▶ Facilitate access to AVA’s Closet & Food Pantry, a safe place for survivors to regain essential belongings like clothing and food in the aftermath of a crime.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

AVA continues to deepen its presence across the community to increase awareness of the support available to victims of crime.

**Lacing Up Against Domestic Violence:** In partnership with the Atlanta Police Department, Spelman College, and the Fulton County Family Violence Task Force, AVA held its second annual 5K and resource fair to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. **Save the date for this year’s 5K on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026!**

**United in Remembrance:** AVA’s annual candlelight vigil in December offered a moment to honor victims of violence and support the families who carry their memory forward. This event reflects our commitment to stand with others through grief and healing.

### Healing on Wheels

Thanks to a grant from Impact100 Atlanta, we unveiled our new Community Care Unit (CCU), a one-of-a-kind mobile unit that offers victims a safe onsite healing space after a crime.

We’re grateful to our media partners for amplifying important stories like our new mobile unit. Scan or visit [atlantava.org/blog](http://atlantava.org/blog) to see this story and more.



Scan and watch to learn more about AVA’s programs, services, and compassionate team members who walk alongside victims on their journey from crisis to recovery.

## LOOKING AHEAD

As we move into 2026, AVA remains focused on:

- ▶ **Deepening partnerships across the community** to ensure coordinated, survivor-centered responses.
- ▶ **Expanding access to services** by meeting survivors where they are—through mobile response, school-based support, and community-centered outreach.
- ▶ **Increasing community awareness and trust** so more victims know where to turn for help.
- ▶ **Strengthening organizational capacity** to ensure AVA can continue responding to the growing demand for our services while supporting and retaining skilled advocates.

Our future impact depends on collaboration—and the continued commitment of a community that believes victims should never be left to navigate trauma alone.

## THE HEART OF THE WORK: OUR TEAM



AVA's compassionate team of advocates, staff, and volunteers remain at the core of our impact—showing up every day to walk alongside survivors with care, professionalism, and respect.

### Shontel Brunson-Wright

Executive Director

Scan to meet the rest of our team or visit [atlantava.org/who-we-are](http://atlantava.org/who-we-are)



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## STAND WITH SURVIVORS:

### Support AVA Today

These are just a few of the many ways your donations help support those we serve.



A comfort item (i.e., teddy bear or doll) for a child who has been the victim of crime



Cover a victim's co-payment for a medical visit needed after a crime



A one-hour homicide support group facilitated by a qualified therapist



A week of groceries for a family that has been displaced following a crime



Clothing and shoes for a victim who was forced to leave all their belongings



A week hotel stay for a survivor who needs to leave his/her home

Scan to donate or visit [atlantava.org/donate](http://atlantava.org/donate)

