



後疫情時代下的法律扶助 —民主、科技與司法近用

Legal Aid in the Post-Pandemic Era—
Democracy, Technology, and Access to Justice

IFLA

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International Forum on Legal Aid

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Background Information : the Victim Support Organization in Taiwan

- Funded by the Ministry of Justice in accordance with Article 29 of the *Crime Victim Protection Act*
- A specialized organization registered on January 29, 1999
- Name of our organization: **Association for Victims Support (AVS)**
- A government-funded foundation
- Twenty-two offices, located at the same place as the District Prosecutor's Office in each city/county

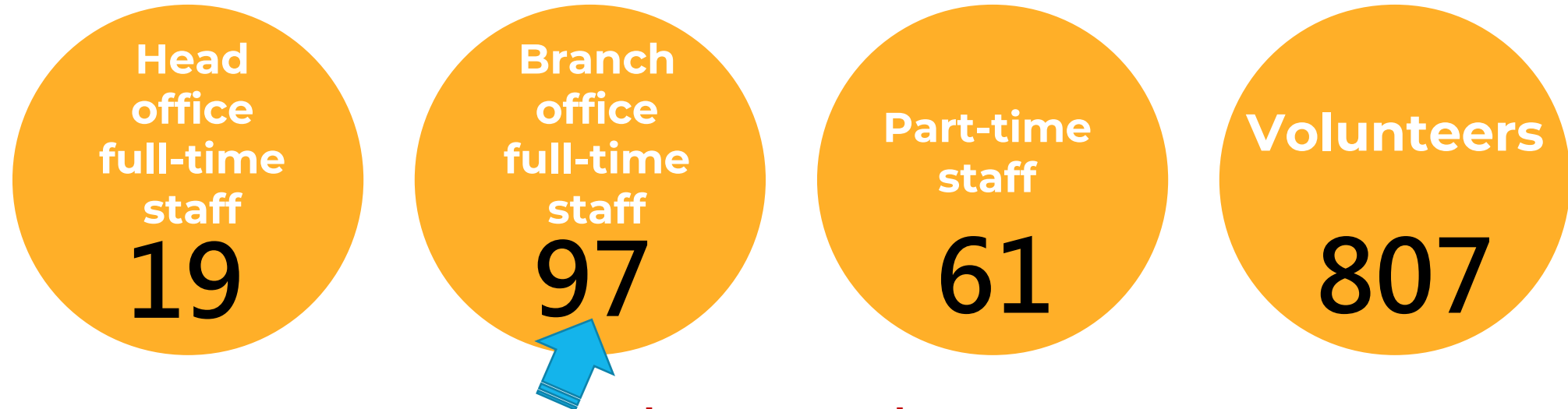


財團法人
犯罪被害人保護協會
Association for Victims Support (AVS)



Staff

- Full-time staff: People with backgrounds in law, social work, psychology, or crime prevention education
- Part-time staff: Primarily civil servants of the District Prosecutor's Office, responsible for supervision and administrative collaboration
- Volunteers: Assisting with home visits and administrative work

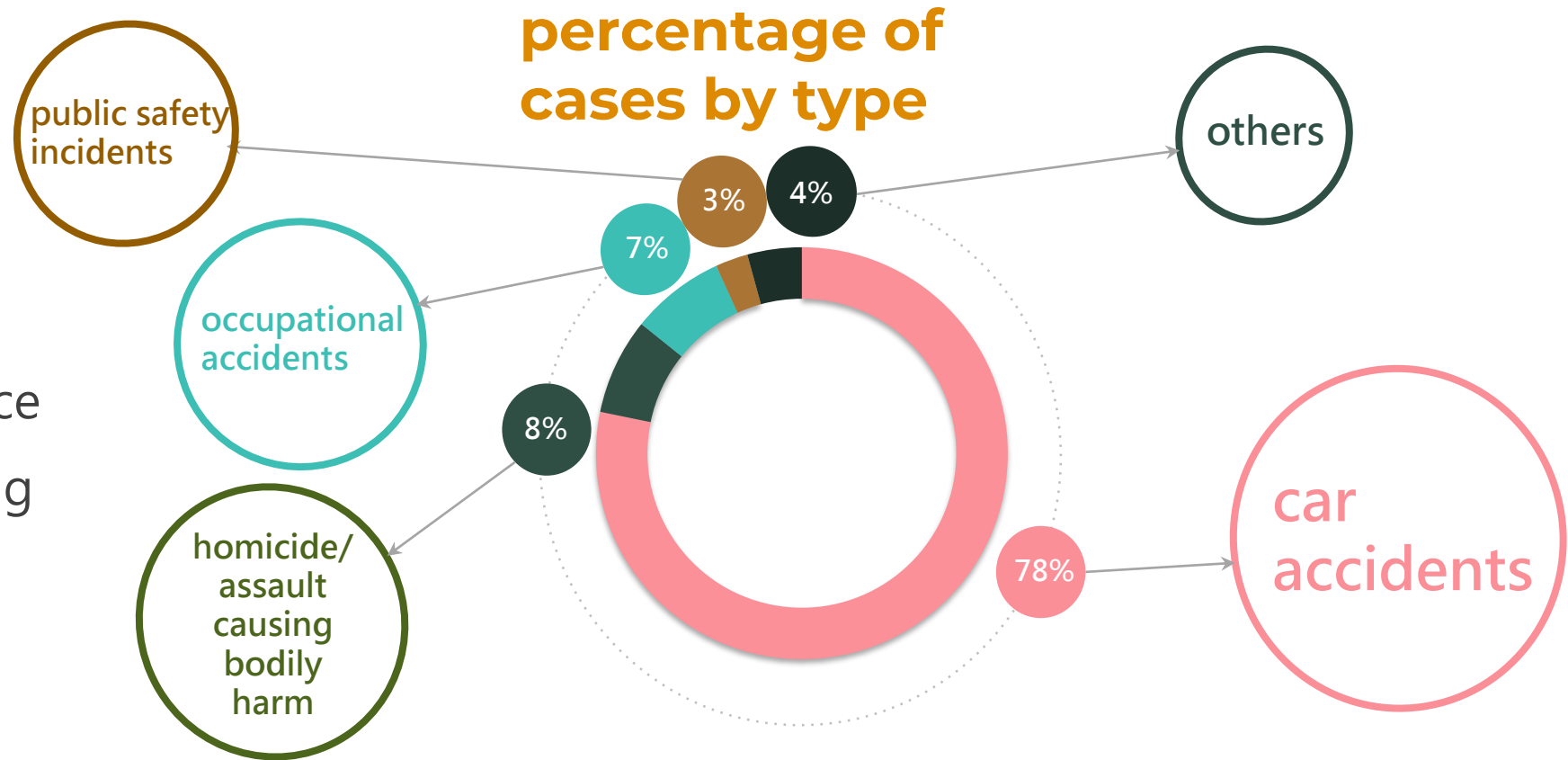


In response to regulatory amendments, the number will increase to 150 by 2024 (i.e. one full-time staff for every 160,000 people).

Types of services

- Main case types
 - Homicide
 - Serious injury

- Others
 - Sexual assaults
 - Domestic violence
 - Human trafficking
 - Child and youth victims

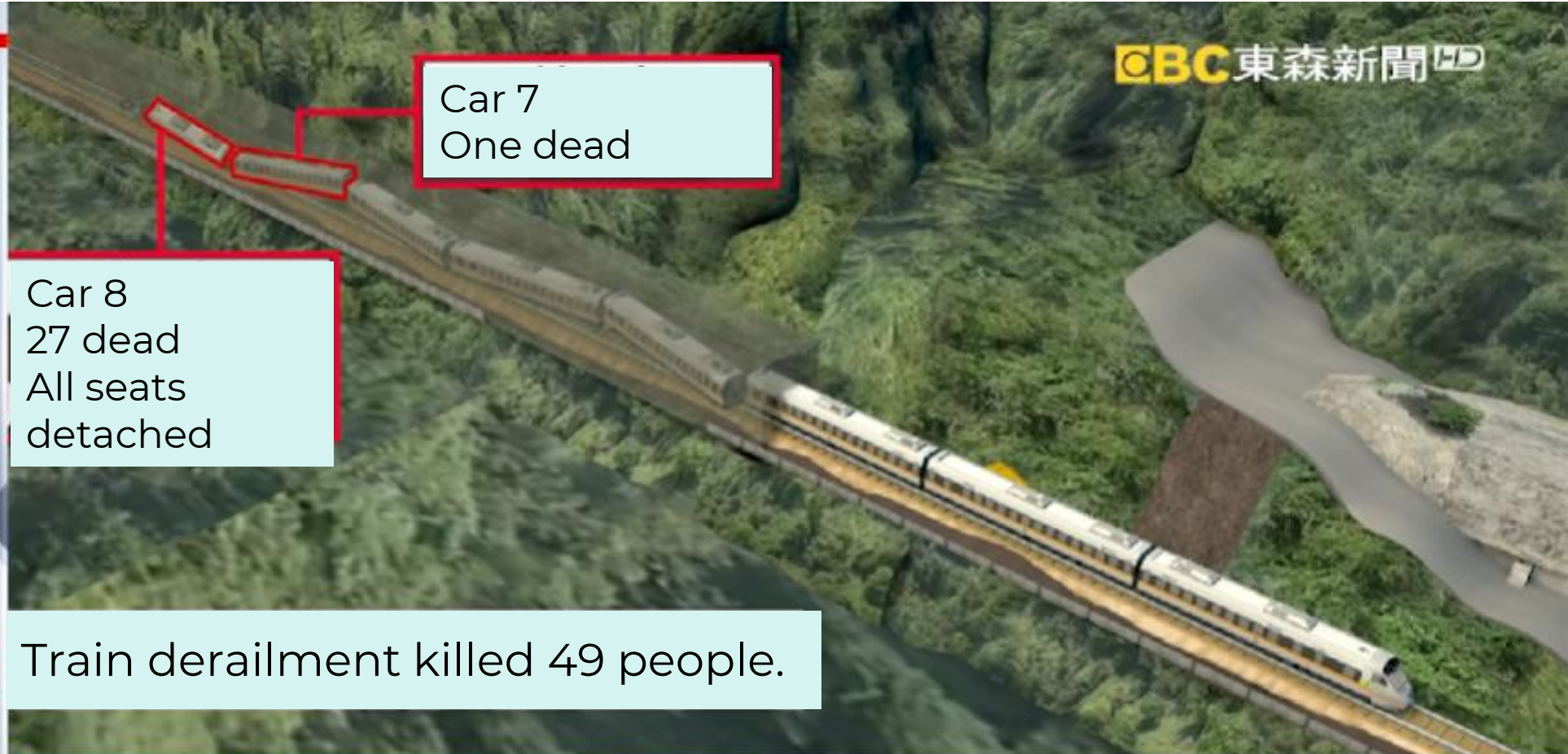


Source of Cases



Under the current system, the police and prosecutors are responsible for reporting cases to AVS. Our branch offices work closely with them to obtain source information of the cases.

Emergency Support for Serious Accidents



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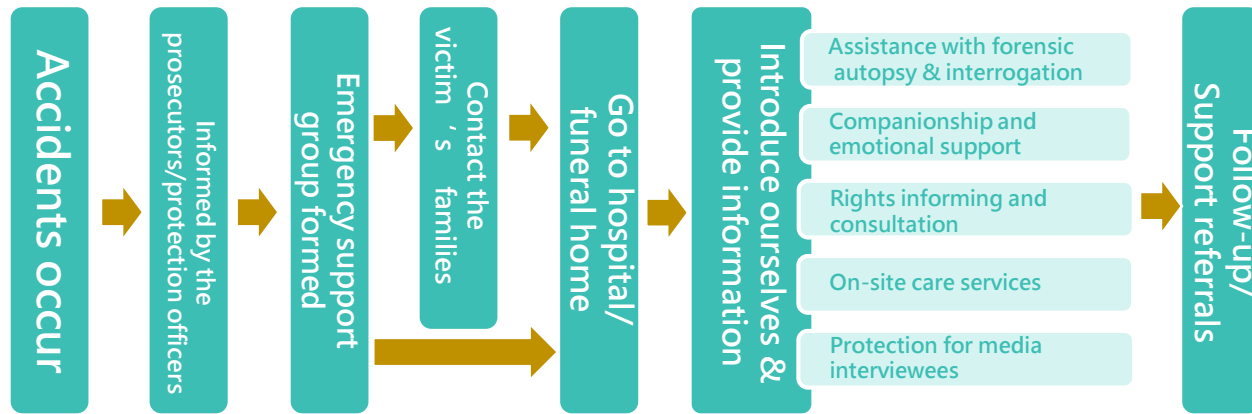
Car 7
One dead

Car 8
27 dead
All seats
detached

Train derailment killed 49 people.

Car 8, 27 dead. Car 7, one dead. Fourteen people tossed out of the car. Eight bodies unidentified.

Emergency Support for Serious Accidents



“Along the Way” Legal Assistance Program

- Implemented from 2008
- 364 lawyers joined the program so far
- Victims' service satisfaction rate reached 97.1%
- The program provides the following services:
 - Legal consultation, legal documents drafting, legal representation
 - Subsidies for legal expenses of litigation and non-litigation cases and attorney's fees
- New services added in response to regulatory amendments:
 - Assist victims in petitioning for litigation participation
 - Attend court hearings with victims and help them present statements
 - Provide psychotherapy or counseling during legal proceedings



Legal Assistance Provided by AVS

Property Investigation / Investigating property of the perpetrators or the persons liable for compensation

Issuance of Letters of Guarantee / Issuing letters of guarantee in lieu of the deposit for provisional attachment

Exemption from financial eligibility review / Cases where an intentional criminal act results in death or serious injury, sexual assault cases, or high-profile cases are exempted from financial eligibility review

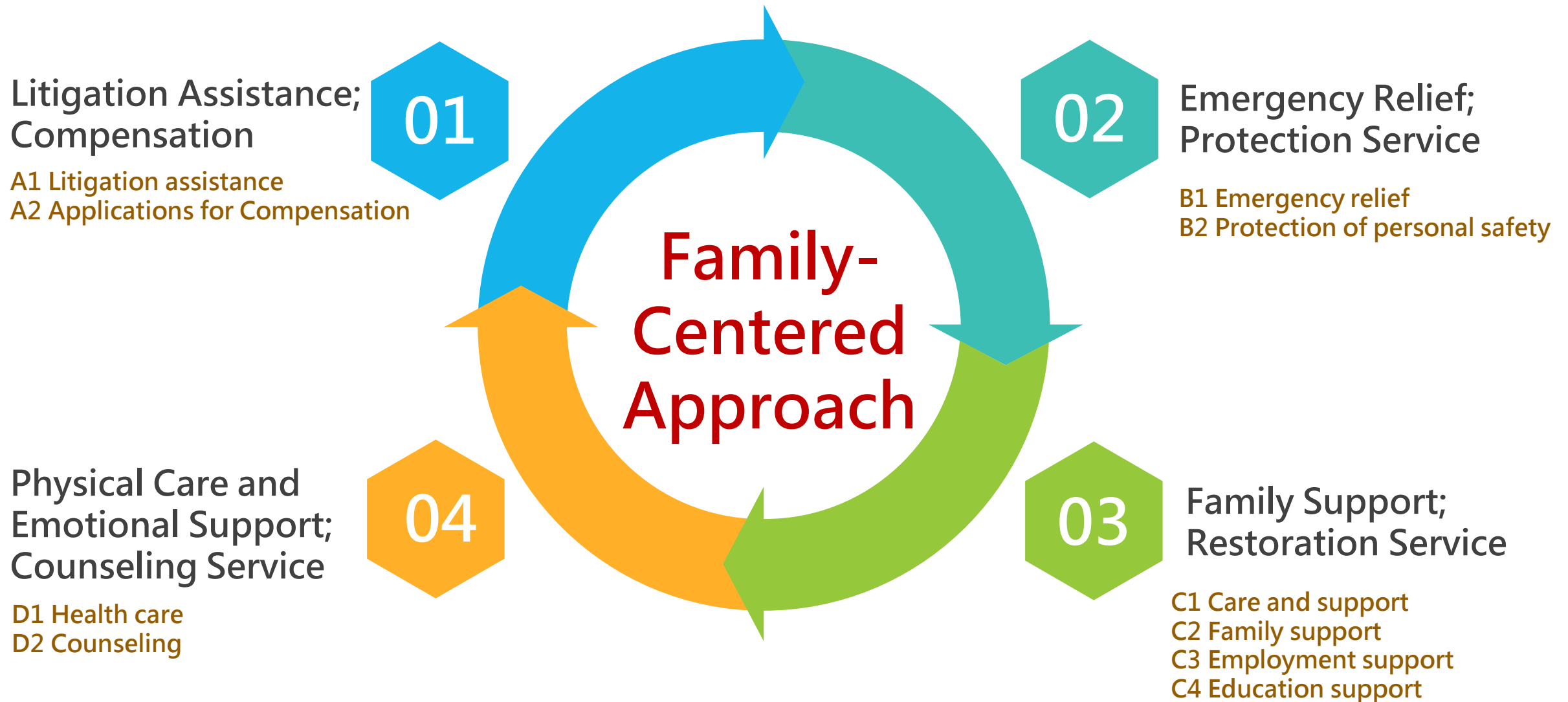
Subsidies for litigation / Providing up to NT\$50,000 subsidy for litigation costs at each instance of trial

Platform for public prosecution / Serving as the contact platform between the prosecutors and attorneys of victims of crime in the cases subject to citizen participation proceedings

Court companion / Full-time staff or volunteers attending court hearings with victims of crime to provide support and protect them from being disturbed by the press

Counseling / Psychological counseling for emotion and stress caused by court proceedings

Develop a Family-centered Holistic Service



Government Support in Manpower and Funding

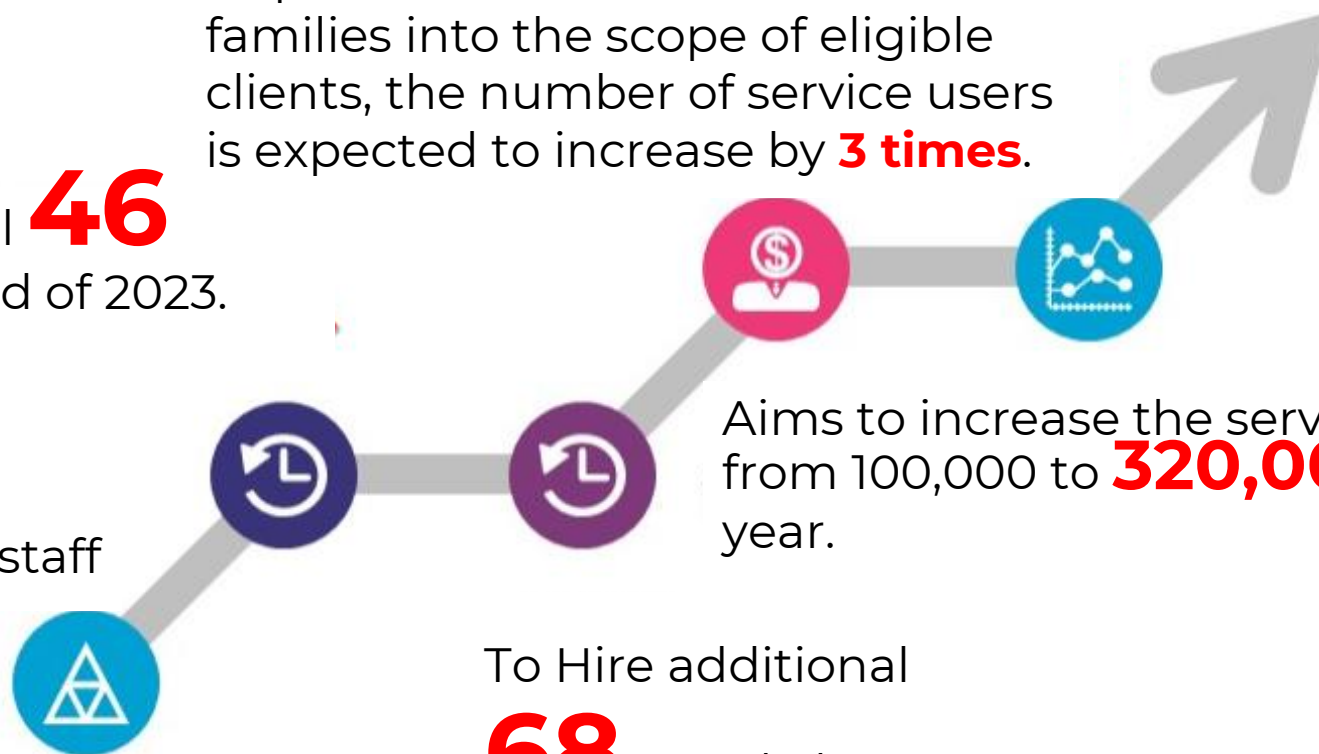
Since the amendment of law has required the inclusion of victims' families into the scope of eligible clients, the number of service users is expected to increase by **3 times**.

To hire additional **46** people by the end of 2023.

currently **70** full-time staff

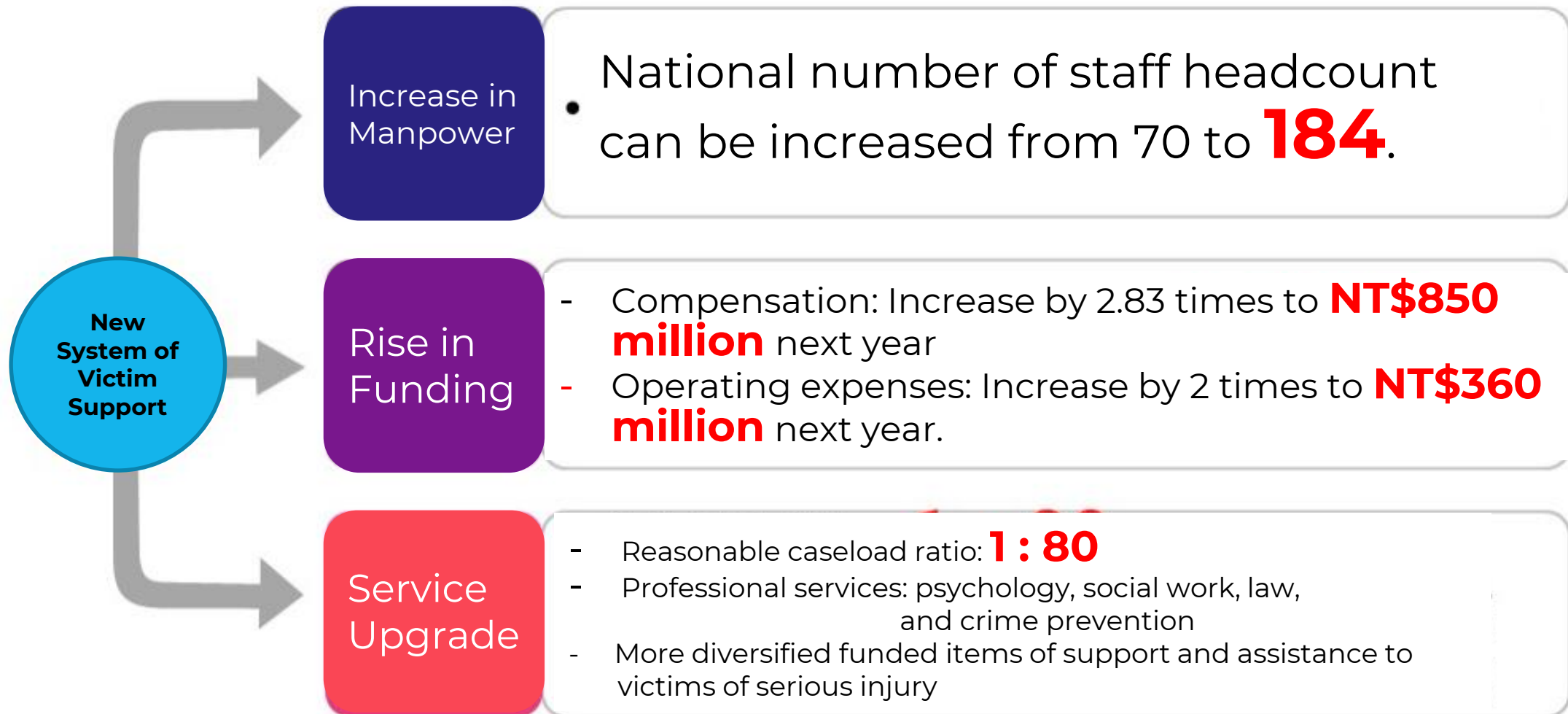
Aims to increase the service number from 100,000 to **320,000** visits per year.

To Hire additional **68** people by 2024.



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Government Support in Manpower and Funding



More Comprehensive, Immediate, and Empathetic Victim Support

