



Establishing Connections: Integrating Victim Services in Rural Law Enforcement Agencies

July 6, 2023

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Webinar Logistics

- Webinar is being recorded
- Webinar evaluation
- Questions and Answers



Presenters



Amy Durall – OVC Fellow



Caroline Huffaker – NPI
Senior Program Manager

Agenda

- What are victim services and what role do they play in departments?
- What are gaps in current victim services?
- What are effective victim-centered and trauma-informed responses?
- What resources are available?
- Questions and Answers

Victim Services: Vital Component of Justice System Interactions

Enhanced Response to Victims - It Matters!

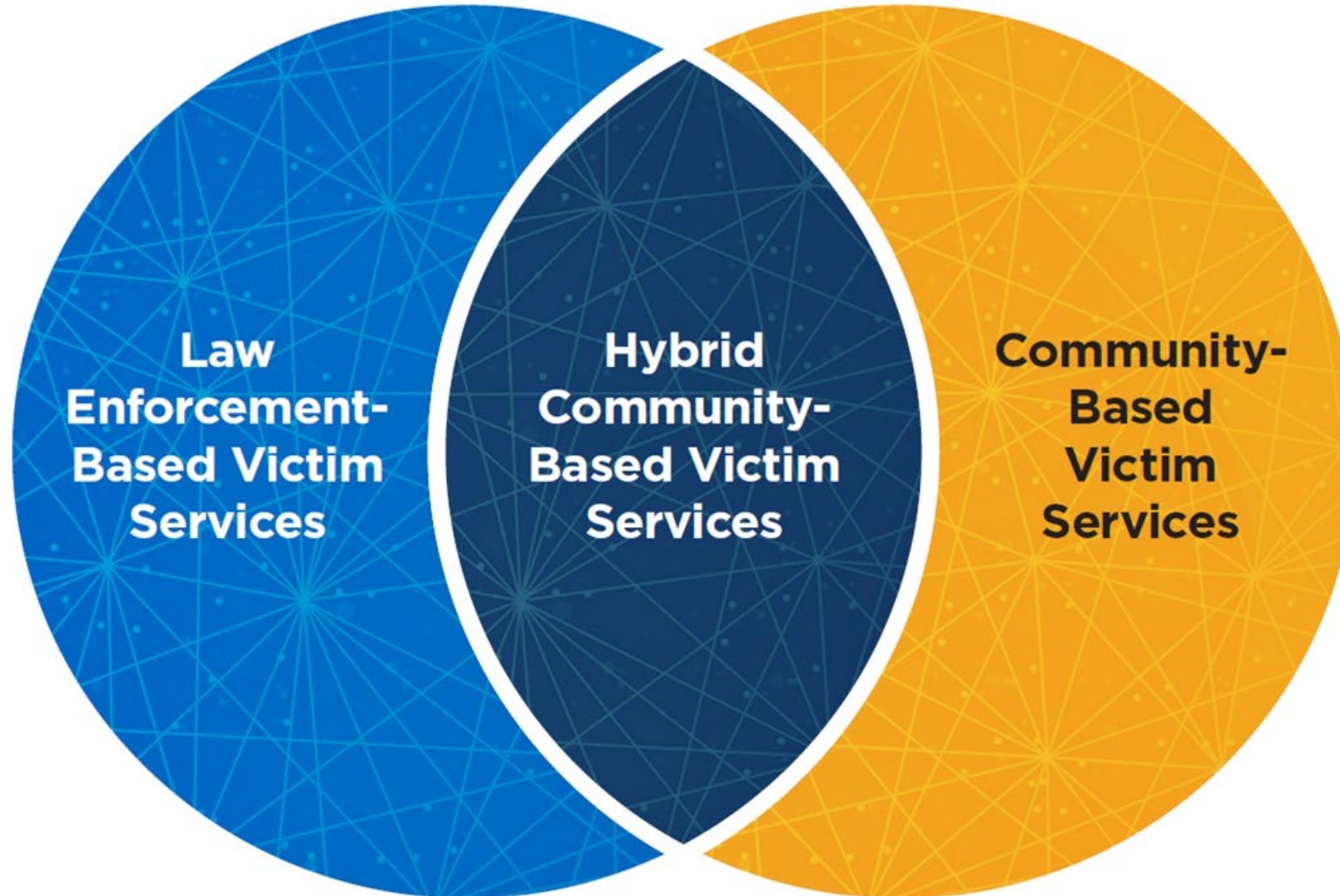
Incorporating victim services into law enforcement agencies creates:

- Benefits to Victims
- Benefits to Agencies
- Benefits to Communities



THE ENHANCING LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO VICTIMS STRATEGY

Models of Service Provision



An advocate can help a person to speak up for themselves or give their views.



Gaps in Victim Services

- When do victims' rights start?
- Are charges always filed?
- What do victim services look like after prosecution?
- Are services available for all victimization types?
- Are all services immediately available?



Victimization and Investigation

Prosecution

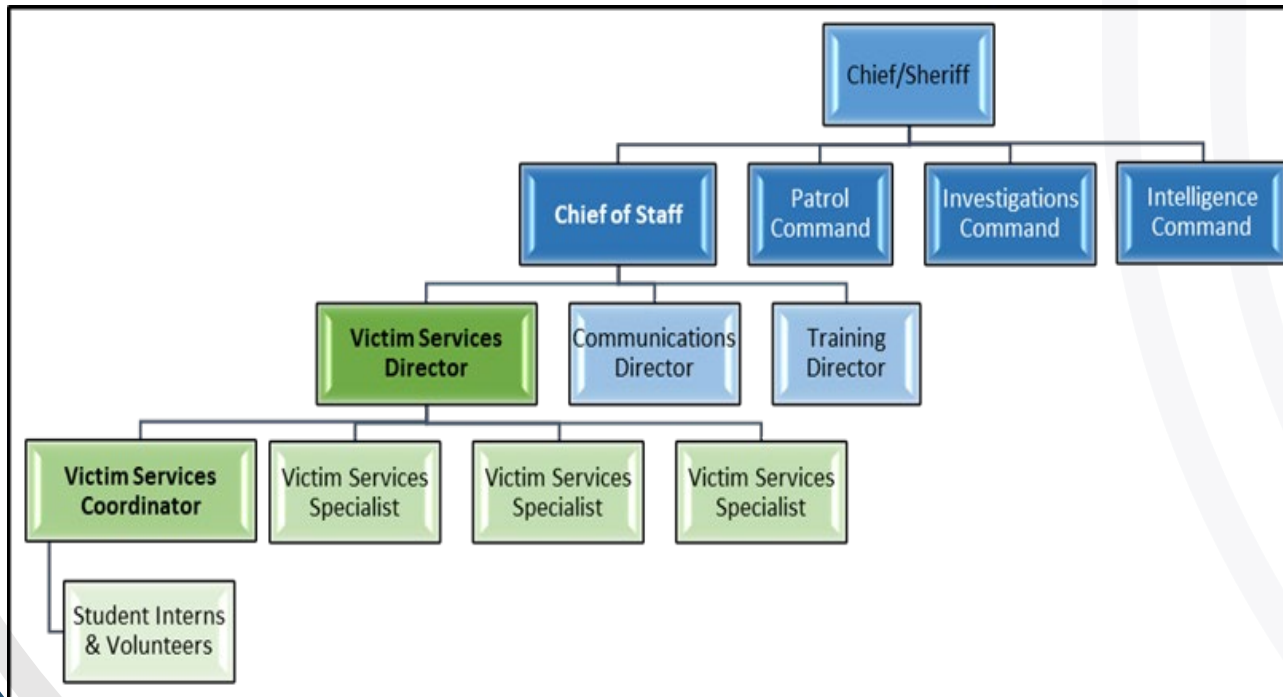
Victim Services: Agency Victim Response

Effective Victim Response

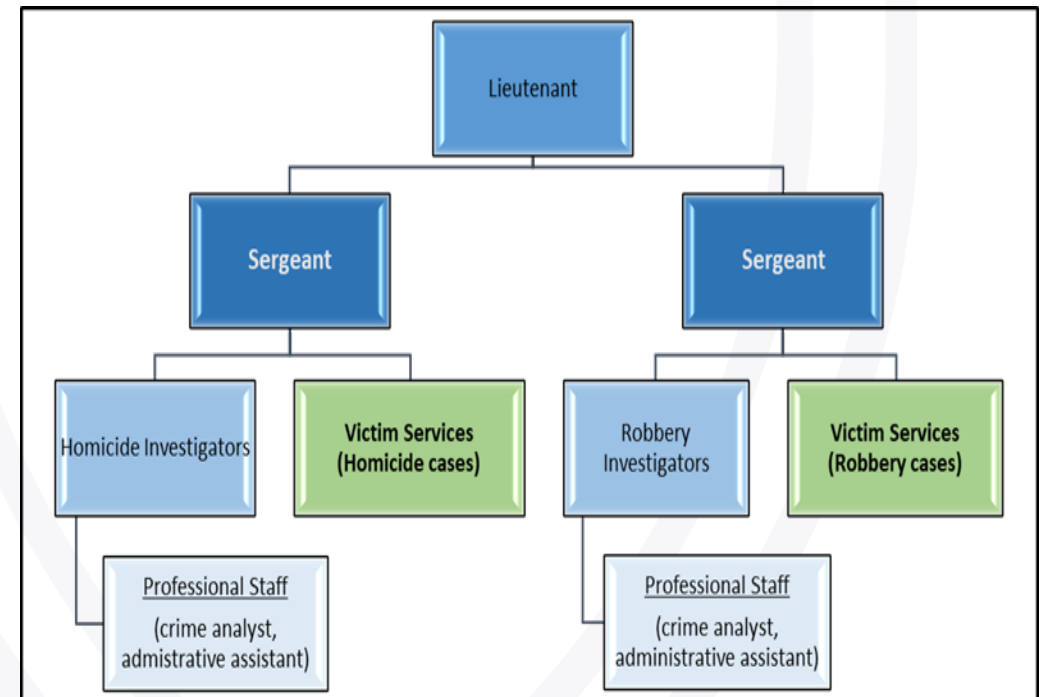
- Opportunity and Responsibility
- Internal Partnerships
- External Partnerships

Agency-Employed Victim Services Personnel Models

Centralized, not Embedded



Decentralized, Embedded



Victim-centered, Trauma-informed Practices

Victim-Centered & Trauma-Informed



Critical Needs of Victims



Safety

Risk reduction for safety concerns and re-victimization

Physical, emotional, and psychological safety

Processes and services aimed at increasing safety

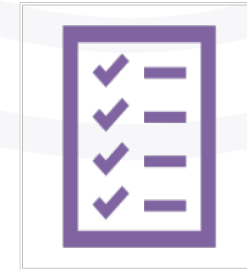


Support

Help navigating justice system processes

Connection to victim services personnel

Availability of support persons chosen by victims



Information

Concise and useful information about justice system processes

Rights and resources

Future points of contact

Status of the investigation and prosecution

Critical Needs of Victims



Access

Opportunities to fully participate

Information in languages spoken & understood

Attention to special needs & access barriers

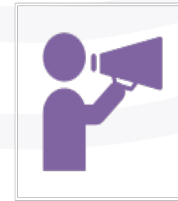


Continuity

Active collaboration with other professionals

Clear understanding of everyone's roles

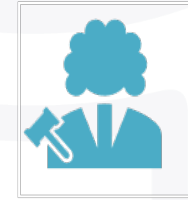
Data sharing & research-informed practices



Voice

Encouragement to ask questions & have concerns heard

Invitation to participate in case-related & agency practice discussions.



Justice

Skills, training, & experience for thorough, offender-focused investigations

Hold offenders accountable

Ask victims for input on case resolution – not all victims define justice the same way!

Ways to Incorporate Victim-centered, Trauma-informed Practices



Personnel
Training



Policy Revision
and Creation



Review of
Documentation
Practices



Incorporation
of Victim
Services
personnel

Helpful Resources

Resources

- Agency-wide strategy for response to victims - Leadership, Partnering, Training, Performance Monitoring:
 - [Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Victims \(ELERV\) | International Association of Chiefs of Police \(theiacp.org\)](https://theiacp.org/enhancing-law-enforcement-response-to-victims-elerv)
- Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services - publications, webinars, template packages:
 - [Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services \(LEV\) | International Association of Chiefs of Police \(theiacp.org\)](https://theiacp.org/law-enforcement-based-victim-services-lev)
- Victim-Centered, Trauma-Informed Practices in Law Enforcement Victim Support - Self-Assessment Tool, funding resource:
 - [Promising Practices in Law Enforcement Victim Support | International Association of Chiefs of Police \(theiacp.org\)](https://theiacp.org/promising-practices-in-law-enforcement-victim-support)

Justice Clearinghouse 2024 webinar series

Series of eight webinars on the integration of law enforcement-based victim services

Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services

2024 webinar series

Opportunities to connect crime victims to specialized personnel and services are being missed!

What are the estimated numbers?

- ❖ 15% of law enforcement agencies have specialized units for victim assistance.
- ❖ 8.3% of violent victimizations reported to police involve victim services use.

What can law enforcement agencies do?

Law enforcement agencies can hire victim services personnel to help crime victims stay engaged in the investigative process and navigate multiple complex systems to meet their needs.

Victim services personnel can:

- ❖ Help crime victims and co-victims understand and exercise their rights.
- ❖ Focus on victim compensation.
- ❖ Provide specialized services during victim interviews, forensic exams, and case status updates.
- ❖ Provide information and support during witness and suspect interviews, execution of warrants, controlled communication, and media communication.

Join us in 2024 to learn how to effectively integrate a victim services unit into your agency's victim response efforts!

Featured Speakers:

Amy Durall – OVC Fellow
Caroline Huffaker – NPI Senior Program Manager
Meg Garvin – NCVLI Executive Director
Susan Smith-Howley – JRSA Project Director
Kelle Barrick – RTI Senior Research Criminologist
Lynn Langton – RTI Senior Research Criminologist

2024 SAVE THE DATES!! Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services

Part 1: Discussion of services provided by victim services personnel that align with sworn personnel responsibilities.
Wed, Jan 17, 1p ET

Part 2: Discussion of the role and parameters for victim services personnel that includes models of service provision and partnerships.
Thu, Feb 29, 3p ET

Part 3: Discussion of the role and parameters for victim services personnel that includes jurisdiction-specific statutes and documentation practices.
Thu, Apr 18, 3p ET

Part 4: Discussion of considerations when starting a victim services unit that includes agency readiness and setting clear expectations.
Thu, May 30, 1p ET

Part 5: Discussion of considerations when starting a victim services unit that includes agency policies, communication, and staff development as part of ongoing strategic planning.
Thu, Aug 1, 1p ET

Part 6: Discussion of essential training to prepare all agency personnel for the integration of victim services.
Tue, Sep 24, 1p ET

Part 7: Discussion of current research efforts around law enforcement-based victim services.
Thu, Oct 17, 1 ET

Part 8: Open discussion about integrating victim services personnel and services into agency response efforts.
Thu, Dec 5, 3p ET

Registration information coming soon!
<https://www.justiceclearinghouse.com/feature/victims-assistance-advocacy/>

This flyer was produced by the OVC ELERY Fellow under ISPOVC-22-GE-01510-AONE, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this flyer are those of the contributor and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

OVC - Law Enforcement Response to Victims Fellowship

Tailored training and technical assistance available at NO COST!!

Tailored training and technical assistance at no cost!



OVC Fellowship – Training and Technical Assistance

The goal of this fellowship is to engage with law enforcement agencies to develop in-house law enforcement victim response. The OVC Fellow can:

- Assess agencies' victim response efforts
- Develop training and public outreach efforts
- Evaluate agencies' readiness to implement
- Help agencies enhance capacity to provide
- Identify and share model best practices
- Share knowledge of OVC initiatives

Amy Durall

Amy Durall is an accomplished professional who holds a master's degree in Psychology. She works with law enforcement agencies to ensure a focus on multidisciplinary and collaborative assessment teams for law enforcement victim engagement, and as a consultant to enhance victim response.

Amy has documented experience working with various organizations, allied partners of various agencies, and is often called upon to develop and deliver targeted technical assistance, and conduct

Take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your victim response efforts and meet

OVC Fellowship – Training and Technical Assistance Request Form
 Complete and submit to: Amy.Durall@ovcni.gov

Point of Contact

Agency: _____
 Name and Title: _____
 Email address: _____ Date of Request: _____
 Phone number: _____

Topic Areas of Interest

Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Victims (ELERV)

Leadership Training Partnering Performance Monitoring

Other (provide details): _____

Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services

Getting Started Victim Service Role

Rights, Needs, and Services Sustainability

Other (provide details): _____

Agencywide Victim Response

Victims' Rights Victim Compensation

Multidisciplinary Team Participation Victim Response Policies

Victim-Centered, Trauma-Informed Practices

Specific Victimization Response (provide victimization type): _____

Other (provide details): _____

Consultation call (30 minutes to identify TTA needs) – topic: _____



RVCRI TTA Request

No cost tailored training and technical assistance for RVCRI grantees!

Home >

TTA Request

Have a TTA request? Please complete and submit the form below.

The RVCRI team offers expert training and technical assistance (TTA) to grantees upon request. Our team is ready to provide the insights needed to address specific challenges grantees may face. We can also assist grantees in establishing, implementing, and measuring the success of their violent crime reduction plans.

Topic areas include but are not limited to:

- Implementing community engagement strategies
- Implementing problem-solving models and problem-oriented policing
- Strengthening collaborative partnerships
- Enhancing crime analysis capacity
- Hiring and deploying personnel
- Purchasing and deploying technology

After your request has been submitted it will be reviewed by the RVCRI team. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

Requesting Agency Information

Requestor Name *(Required)*

Position *(Required)*

Agency/Department *(Required)*

Telephone *(Required)*

Email *(Required)*



Questions?

Contact Information

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Webinar Evaluation
Survey