Elder Crime Advocacy

Many crimes committed against members of society are not reported to authorities. The elderly are an increasingly large part of that victimization. It is our hope that by increasing the understanding of the criminal justice system it will encourage the elderly to come forward, report the crime and press charges against perpetrators.

The Victims of Crime Advocacy Program (VOCA) is in accordance with the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 and attempts to aid elders in reporting and following up with offenses once charges are pressed. This program will notify victims of their rights, accompany them to court hearings, and follow up with notification on the status of pending cases.

Tri-County Community Action Agency Victims of Crime Advocacy Program provides a broad range of services to elderly residents in all cities and towns in Rhode Island except for Newport and Jamestown.

For further information contact:
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Funded by the State of Rhode Island Department of Public Safety
Advocacy Services

Tri-County Community Action Agency’s Victim of Crime Program is funded by the State of Rhode Island Department of Public Safety to assist elders who have been victims of a crime.

Clients must be senior citizens.

Referrals can be made by:
- Police
- Social Workers
- Senior Centers
- Department of Elder Affairs
- Housing Authorities
- Domestic Violence Agencies
- Elder Case Managers
- Self-Referrals
- Family Members
- Health Care Providers

“A victim of crime shall, as a matter of right be treated by agents of the state with dignity, respect and sensitivity during all phases of the criminal justice process. Such persons shall be entitled to receive, from the perpetrator of the crime, financial compensation for any injury or loss caused by the perpetrator of the crime, and shall receive such other compensation as the state may provide. Before sentencing, the victim shall have the right to address the court regarding the impact which the perpetrator’s conduct has had upon the victim.”

Article 1, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

The Tri-County Victims of Crime Advocacy Program provides the following services to elders:
- Support Services
- Criminal Justice Related Services
- Emergency Services
- Crisis Intervention
- Assistance in filing police reports Obtaining Protective Orders
- Assistance in obtaining legal representation
- Assistance in filing for Victim Restitution and/or Compensation
- Assistance in obtaining Mental Health Counseling

Police departments and the court systems cannot prosecute offenders without knowledge of a crime or a victim. Elders may need assistance with reporting a crime, identifying whom to report to, and what information to give to authorities.

Our advocacy services will help elders with all phases of the criminal justice system and also help clients find the appropriate aftercare services.

Nothing can change if victims remain silent