

VICTIM WATCH

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES



Winter/Spring 2001

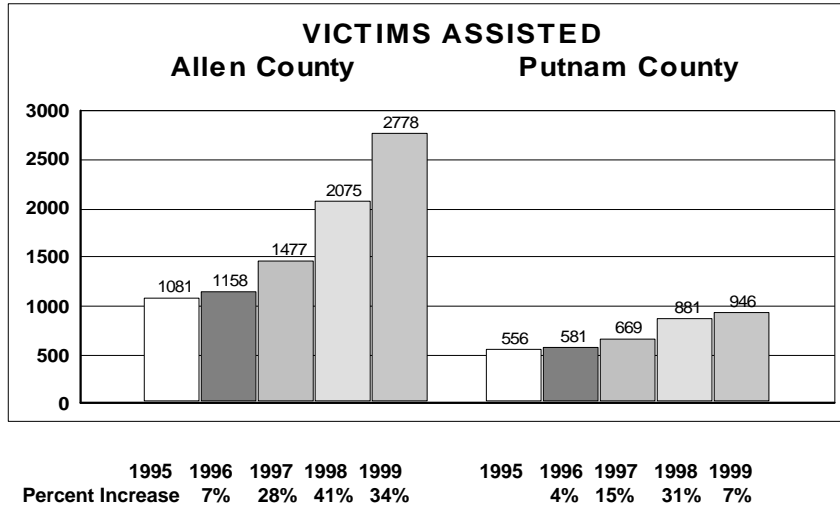
An Equal Opportunity Employer/Provider

Victim Assistance -
Allen Co. & Putnam Co.

Domestic Violence Shelter -
Putnam Co.

Rape Crisis - Allen, Auglaize, Darke, Hardin,
Mercer, Putnam, Shelby, Van Wert & Wyandot Counties

Impact Panels - Allen
Putnam & Hancock Counties



Attorney General Montgomery Visits CVS



As impressive as the charts above are showing increasing numbers of victims assisted, a critical question remains, "Is each victim provided their rights in the justice system, restored financially and being healed from their trauma?" CVS's focus of

quality of services was recently reviewed with visiting Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery by Director David Voth. First year results of the agency's Outcome Measurement model are being shown to the Attorney General. She asked that it be shared at the annual two day training for Ohio Victim Advocates in 2001. For an overview of this evaluation method, see pages 4 and 5.

Law Speeds Victim Compensation and Rape Crisis Assistance

The passage of S.B. 153 (2000) makes a world of difference to Ohio crime victims. Since July 1, 2000, the criminal court costs (not tax dollars) available to injured victims of up to \$50,000 is easier and faster to get for medical and counseling bills, plus lost wages and other out-of-pocket expenses.

Among other changes in the Victims Compensation Program, the filing fee is eliminated, payments now go directly to the hospital or provider, family members of homicide and sexual assault victims are eligible, and the application is reduced from a four page triplicate to a mail in brochure. CVS Director David Voth testified on the bill, at the request of the Attorney General's office, and has advocated these changes for over ten years.

Part of the same law, and also from criminal court costs, provided \$2.5 million to assist sexual assault victims. It was sponsored by former Senator Bob Cupp (now Allen County Commissioner), and supported by Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery, as they recognized the lack of training and coordination of medical staff, law enforcement, prosecutors, Victim Advocates, and others responders to rape victims.

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www.crimevictimservices.org

Check out our new web site! It has lots of information on victim rights, inmate status links, how to help, who to call, justice system "maps," and large sections for domestic violence and sexual assault victims. There will soon be the ability for victims to fill out and E-mail back impact statements and other forms. The web site was funded by a gift from the Greater Lima United Way Endowment Fund.

*Bob Cupp,
Former Senator
and now an Allen
County Commis-
sioner*



Victim of Drunk Driver Survives Ordeal: Rebuilding Her Life

The impact of the crash forced the automobile's dashboard to meet the floorboards, and somewhere in between the two, were Marie's legs. It took the rescue squad 45 minutes to release Marie's pinched body from the crushed metal by using the Jaws of Life.

Marie (a local woman who asked not to be identified) had been on her way home from work, and the last thing she remembers about the event which changed her life, are the headlights of the oncoming vehicle right before impact. For the first three weeks following the accident Marie remained at St. Rita's Hospital in Lima, immobile and with a halo screwed into her head. Her doctor told her she was fortunate not to be paralyzed. Some of her injuries included: broken left and right femurs, an open ankle fracture, a left knee fracture, a cervical spine fracture and wrist fracture. The young woman, who was in her early twenties at the time of the accident, spent the next six months recovering from her injuries in a nursing home. She wore the halo on her head for four and a half months, and went through nine surgeries to repair her broken body.

The young man who had caused the crash had been drinking alcohol, but received only minor injuries in the crash. He was charged with vehicular assault, and was given one year in prison. However, he was released after 45 days on "shock probation," and was given five years of probation, community service, and a driver's license suspension (with work privileges) by Common Pleas Judge Randall Basinger. "Judge Basinger told the young man, 'I don't want to see you again in my courtroom,'" said Marie. "At first I was upset that the man who had

caused the crash only served 45 days in prison, but Judge Basinger came over to me to explain why he had given the young man five years probation instead of one year in prison. He (Basinger) explained that by giving the man probation he would still have some control over him for five years. It meant a great deal to me and my family when Judge Basinger personally talked with us."

In 1998, the same young man was arrested for a DUI in Allen County, and was sent back to prison for probation violation. "When is this kid going to learn? When he kills somebody? How many more victims will it take?" asks Marie.

Marie and her family were assisted by crime victim advocates from the Putnam County Crime Victim Services located in Ottawa. Jodi Warnecke, crime victim advocate, has two thick files which are filled with paperwork she and an attorney have worked on for Marie. "Crime Victims Services helped me whenever I needed to go to court and also helped me when my medical bills got too complicated," said Marie. "You can see how much paperwork she received from her insurance company, hospital bills, medications, and so on. It got so complicated it was over my head also so we sought assistance from an attorney," said Warnecke.

Marie's mother took time off work to take Marie to doctor appointments, and family members traveled from other states to visit Marie. Meanwhile, Marie lost her job because she was unable to stand for long periods of time, and was unable to drive an automobile due to her injuries. As Marie struggled to rebuild her world with her new physical limitations she also struggled with depression, rejection from employers, and a world which is not handicap friendly. "The only ramp in our village was located at the post office," said Marie.

Some six and a half years later, Marie continues to go through the long process of recovery. Some days she walks with a limp, other times she uses a wheelchair, but she will never be able to participate in the sports she used to enjoy as a healthy young woman. A

metal rod and two pins remain in her leg and have prevented her from returning to her previous job. In 1997, a Putnam County factory hired Marie and her morale greatly improved after she was given encouragement and promotions by her present supervisor. She is able to remain seated while using the machines located at the factory. "Our company really cares about its employees and you're a person, not a number. Management does a number of things for employees such as providing picnics and golf tournaments," said an enthusiastic Marie.

"The accident comes into my mind, but I take my life as it is on a day to day basis. I've learned a lot about a mother's love through this ordeal and we are very close. I learned how important family is in a crisis. My brother was angry about what happened to me and said, 'You didn't do anything wrong and look what happened to him!'" said Marie.

"I'm not quite ready to forgive the man, but it would have been nice if he had asked how I was after the accident or been sorry for all that he put me through."

continued from page 1
Victims Compensation . . .

This funding provided critical money for the Ohio Dept. of Health to train specialized nurses, called Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE), develop local Task Forces and protocols to ensure proper collection and chain of evidence, provide for 24 hour crisis lines and responders to hospital emergency rooms, and to train all personnel on victim treatment issues and applicable laws. CVS successfully applied for funds to create rape crisis services in Darke, Shelby, and Wyandot Counties, and expand existing sexual assault services in Allen, Auglaize, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam, and Van Wert Counties. Recently, evidence collection drying boxes were researched, purchased, and delivered to the 11 hospitals in these counties.

Cathy's Story

Cathy (not her real name) had never spoken with a police officer before and she was afraid Putnam County police officers wouldn't believe her. "In other places I had lived, women told me stories about how police officers didn't believe women who are victims of domestic violence," said Cathy. "I have nothing, but great things to say about the police officers who helped me in Putnam County," added Cathy.

When Cathy fell in love and married her husband, the last thing she ever envisioned was a relationship which would end up with a call to the police. Cathy's husband relocated the family to an isolated house in Putnam County away from Cathy's family and friends. Cathy was not allowed access to a vehicle and quite often their telephone, Cathy's link to the world, remained disconnected. For years, Cathy was also not permitted to work outside their home.

Cathy described her husband's moods like a bouncing ball. "When my husband was drinking or using drugs his moods would drastically change. He'd become domineering and I felt I couldn't do or say anything," said Cathy.

Cathy also said her husband threatened to kill her if she ever left him and also threatened to take away their son and two daughters. "His rules changed constantly about everything I did in the house and it was my responsibility to keep the children quiet and to keep him happy. He enjoyed hurting and killing small animals and broke anything in the house that belonged to me," said Cathy. Eventually Cathy's husband allowed her to have a job outside the home, but took her paychecks. Although Cathy realized her husband was becoming more and more domineering in their marriage, it was her mother's words that "turned on a light" for her, "You live in a prison!" "When I finally realized my mother was right, I felt like I had nothing. No driver's license or vehicle- not one

thing. And, there was no way of escaping him because he knew where I worked."

Everyone has a breaking point and Cathy said her breaking point came after her husband choked her and then threatened her with a knife in front of their children and an adult relative. Cathy called the police and they were able to locate her husband within 30 minutes. Police officers also called Putnam County Crime Victim Services (CVS).

The following day, a CVS victim advocate sat with Cathy during the arraignment process and held her hand as her husband entered the courtroom in handcuffs. "I could never have done it without the help CVS offered me. I didn't know who to call, how to arrange transportation or rides to daycare. I wouldn't be here today without their help. They've been wonderful," said Cathy. "During my worst days, I always knew they (CVS) would be there to talk to me or at least give me some hope," Cathy said. "It's not easy to raise three children by yourself especially when you've been told for 10 years that you are 'nothing' and aren't capable of doing anything." Cathy was also told that everything was her fault. "When you've heard it long enough, you being to believe it," added Cathy.

Today, Cathy is still hurt and puzzled about why someone she loved would want to hurt her. "I know that other husbands have done worse, but I accepted him and lived the life he wanted me to live and yet he would do this to me in front of our kids! Where would my kids be today if he had killed me? Why would a man want to kill the mother of his own children over a bottle of liquor and drugs?"

Cathy credits CVS personnel with who she is today, but Jodi Warnecke, CVS advocate, said, "We only helped you find it within yourself." Cathy is now working hard to support her children, and although she believes her husband loves their children, she believes he continues to put alcohol and drugs first- over food and diapers when the children come to visit. "Today my life feels like a vacation compared to what I went through while living with my husband. I had forgotten

what it was like to feel good or what it was like to be able to talk with whoever I want. These days I'm making my own decisions and though I have low points (resources are limited), I'd rather have low points than a fist over me. I no longer have to be afraid and I'm standing on my own two feet instead of being on my knees. Although domestic violence takes a huge toll on victims, not all victims are used as punching bags- some are pushed and shoved, verbally abused or threatened," added Cathy.

It is difficult to imagine Cathy as a victim and a spark of determination flashes in her eyes as she offers other victims the same hope she has found. "CVS is able to help, but a victim of abuse has to be ready to ask for help, even if they're not ready to leave the relationship. CVS never told me I couldn't go back with my husband, but they did give me safety options. You can call CVS just to talk," said Cathy.

Some of the ways CVS was able to help Cathy included: transitional housing (until Cathy was able to become self-supporting), help with monthly bills, and emotional support. Cathy appreciated the housing assistance she was given by CVS. "It gave me dignity and respect to be able to stay in my own home." According to Warnecke, ever since a Violence Against Women 1997 grant, shelters have not been needed as much. Women are often able to receive assistance to stay in their homes or in an apartment. CVS also assists crime victims with court hearings and sentencing and in keeping victims informed of how their case is progressing.

*Reprinted with permission
Putnam County Sentinel
Mary Herr, Sentinel Staff Writer*



Outcome Measurement:

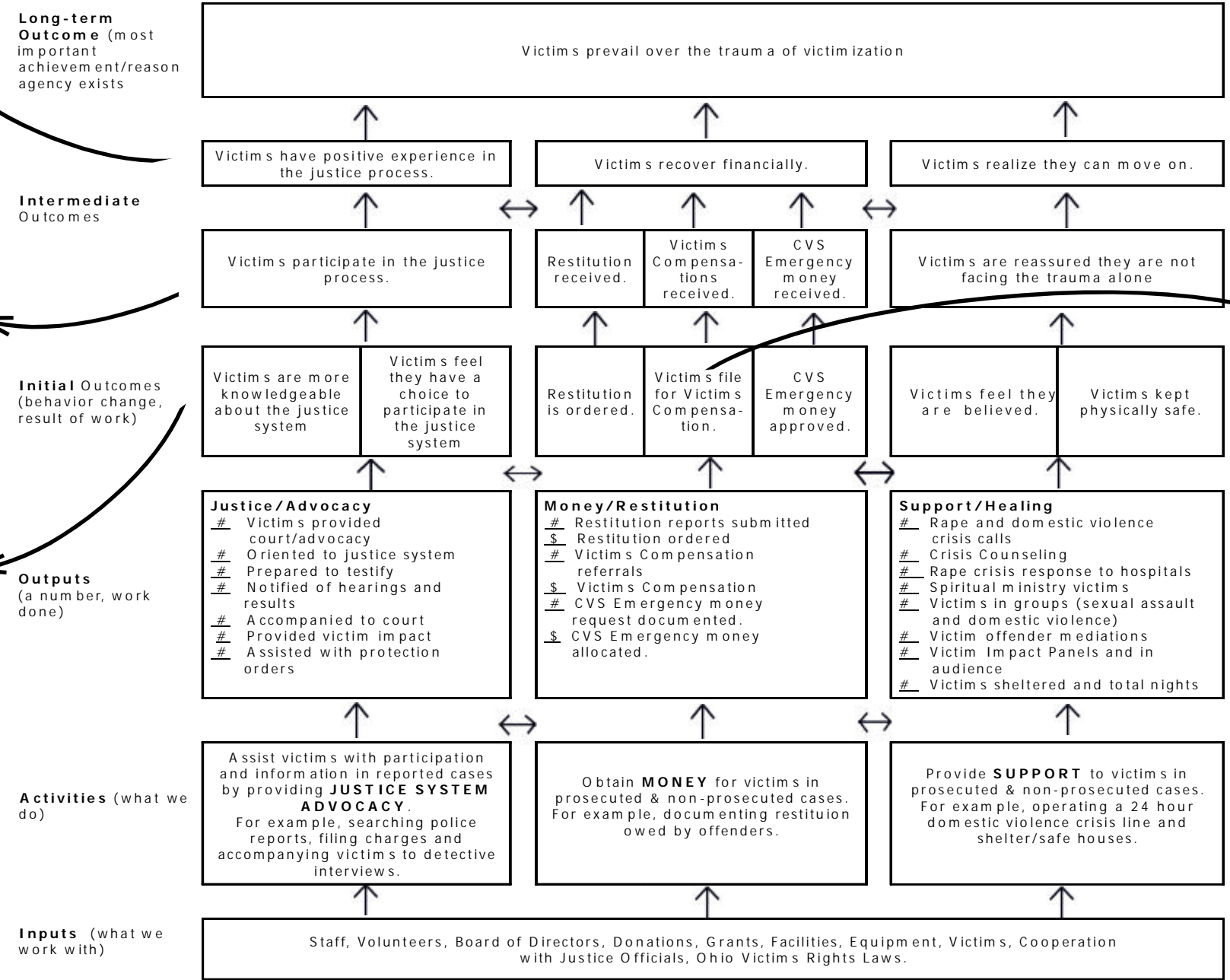
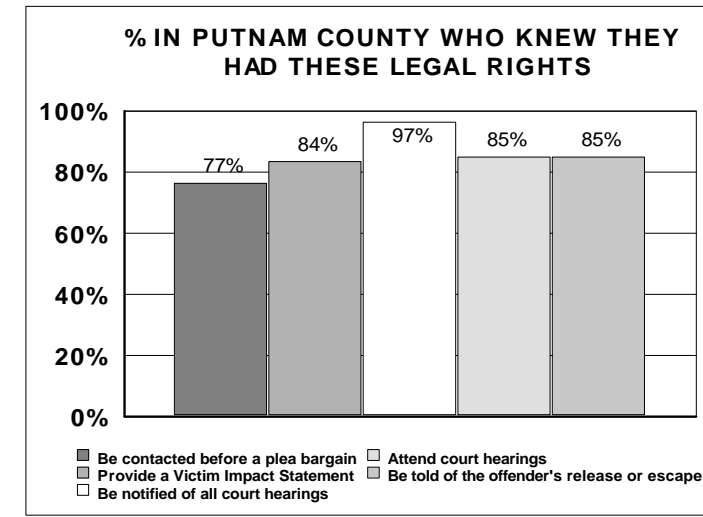
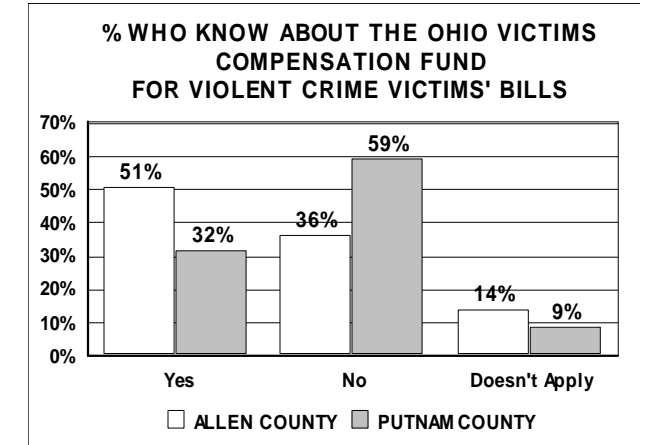
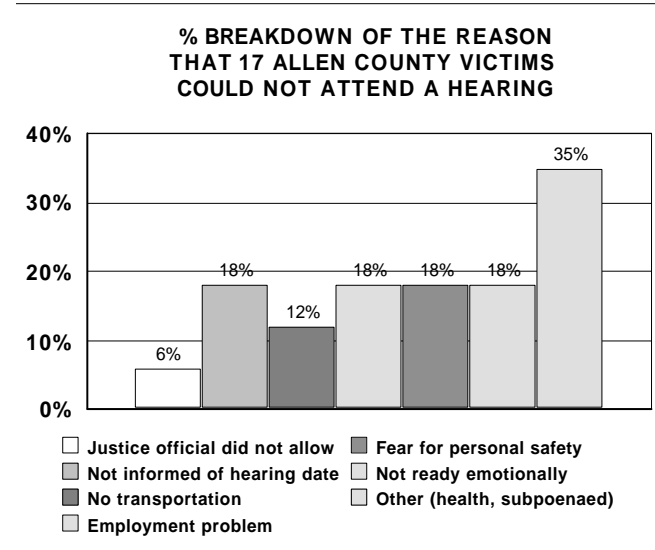
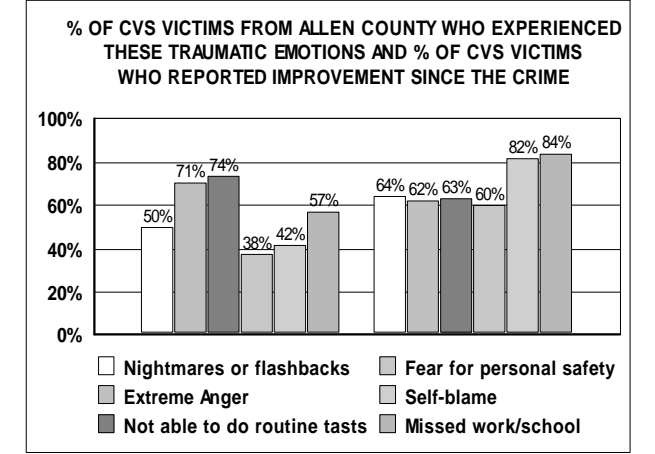
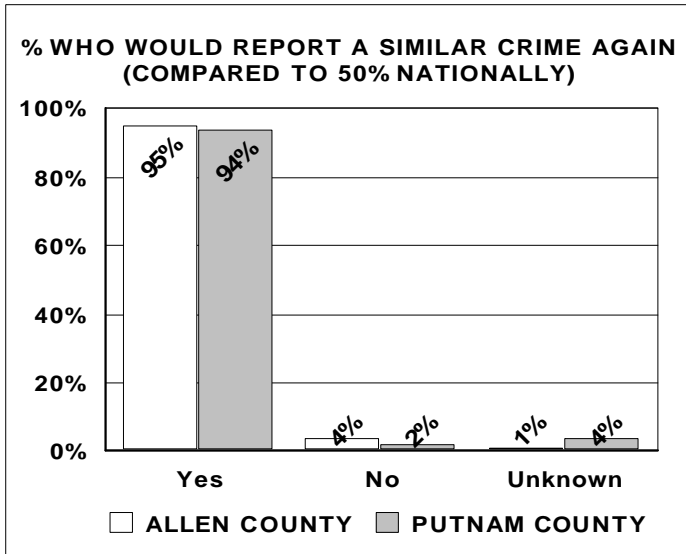
How Crime Victim Services helps victims prevail over the trauma of victimization

Whether a victim assistance program is making a difference in victims' lives is more important than counting numbers of people provided a service. This outcome measurement logic model helps address the critical needs of victims in the three areas of **Justice / Advocacy** (left column), **Money / Restitution** (center column), and **Support / Healing** (right column).

We document each service provided and we document the resulting change (outcome) the services had for the victim. Our services should make a difference in the knowledge, behavior, and abilities of victims, and we should not spend victims' time or our funders' money on services that are not effective in leading to a positive change in victims' lives. This model also provides laser accuracy for training staff to meet specific victim needs.

Each of the outcome boxes (initial, intermediate, and long term) has "indicators" (not shown) which are used to determine if that particular outcome is met. If the lower level outcomes are met, then the upper ones are possible. For example, if victims feel believed, then they can be reassured they are not facing the trauma alone on the next level. The measurement of each outcome is tabulated off victim surveys or from records. For example, available records include court documented restitution collected.

Some victims' cases, financial restoration, or personal healing are not complete when the surveys are mailed, and results need to be qualified and later updated. This process remains under construction, and must be tailored for each type of victim and program outcome. The model displayed covers general crime victims in both prosecuted and un-prosecuted crimes, with similar models designed by CVS staff for our **sexual assault, domestic violence, and Victim Ministry** programs. All four models can be seen at www.crimevictimservices.org. Click on "Assistance" (under "Our Services") and "Outcome Measurement" in the drop down box.



Reading the chart
from the bottom up, answers WHY?
from the top down, answers HOW?
From side-to-side, answers WHAT ELSE?
All lead to the long-term outcome

HERO

She is only 50 some inches tall, she has blond hair and blue eyes. She wears tiny wire-rimmed glasses that have a tendency of slipping down her small nose. When she speaks she smiles and giggles through-out the conversation. She spells social studies "soilstudies". She is in the 4th grade and on her next birthday she will be 11 years old. And she is my hero.

Heros come into being in different ways. Some make the decision to be heros by doing heroic deeds: they run into burning buildings, they dive into frozen rivers to rescue people from drowning. One minute they are an ordinary, everyday, run-of -the-mill person. Then some disaster happens and they choose to take action, and to get involved. They could have chosen to walk away but they didn't. They stayed. These are the people we see on the six o'clock news. Their stories brings tears to our eyes. We like to harbor the thought or the hope that in the same situation we too would run into that building and save the tiny infant from sure death. We can almost imagine it is our smiling face on camera with the baby being rescued in our saving arms. These heros make us proud of our humanity.

But there is another kind of hero. This kind of hero does not have the luxury of choosing to be a hero. These heros are quiet heros. They do not even see themselves as heros. They are living one day at a time and trying to do the very best that they can. This is the kind of hero my hero is. She is a sweet-tempered little girl who was abused for years by her biological father on his weekend visits. She was raped by this father every other weekend for over 5 years. He threatened her. He told her that if she ever told anyone he would hurt her and her mother. So she did not tell anyone from the age of 4 until the age of 9. She endured. She did her best to live her life the best she could. She went to school and studied hard. She did well at

school and helped at home with her little brothers and sisters. She never once hurt anyone who was smaller or weaker than she was. She chose to be loving and kind. She helped her single mother keep house and take care of the younger children. She chose to endure the physical pain and emotional anguish with which her father burdened her, in order to keep the family safe. In her mind she chose to sacrifice herself for the well-being of her family. And through it all, she never gave up hope.

The abuse is over now. The father is no longer in her life. He is in a place where he can no longer hurt her. He is in prison until her 22nd birthday. She is relieved that he can not hurt her any longer but she does not hate him for what he has done. Nor does she blame the adults in her life for not protecting her or seeing that something was wrong. She is not angry. She is a hero. She will carry the memories with her. The physical damage is permanent. But somehow she is above all this pain. We will not see her face on the 6 o'clock news. No one will congratulate her on a job well done. No one will say that it is wonderful that she does not hate, that she does not strike out. No one will ever know what a courageous and brave little girl she is. What she did she did in silence. She chose to not allow the evil of the world to over shadow the good. She is an example for all of us. I want to be more like her because she is my HERO.

Crime Victim Services' Board of Directors (3-year voluntary terms)

Sean Harlan Austin, Ph.D.

Sheriff Daniel Beck

Rebecca Belcher

Sheriff James Beutler

JoAnn Bloom

Jeanne Botkin

Paul Brown

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John Gillivan

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Karl Kayser

Sidney Little

Hon. Mary Wiener

**Allen County Assistant
Prosecutor
Juergen Waldick**

Paul Woehlke



Thank you to the many schools, churches, businesses, organizations, and individuals who "adopted" a CVS victim family at Christmas. In Putnam County, the 30 families helped included 82 children and 34 adults, and in Allen County CVS assisted four families. In total, nearly \$15,000 worth of food, donated items, gifts, toys and money were passed along. Special thanks to CVS Victim Advocate Shelley Price who coordinated most of the effort.

The sixteen businesses, schools, churches and groups who made donations are:



a portion of the goodies . . .

*ABATE - Toy Run
Berty Schwartz Real Estate
Continental E.M.S.
Girl Scout Troop #422
Harvest Assembly of God
Iams Company
Kalida High School
New Creation Church
Northwest Physical Therapy
Ottawa Elementary
Putnam County Clerk of Courts
Putnam County Home Health
St. Anthony's School
St. Nicholas Altar Rosary
St. Nicholas Church
United Methodist Church of Gilboa*



Raising \$500,000 for Victim Ministry

You know what a jail chaplain is and you support prison ministry, so what is a "Victim Ministry?" The same idea, except focusing on the victims of the crime during their critical time of spiritual, emotional, and practical need!

"Churches and individuals are being asked to pledge mission funds to the Victim Ministry. . ."

Matching a trained Christian volunteer to befriend a victim of violent crime is the mission of Victim Ministry Coordinator Norma Gable and volunteer assistant Mary Lou Bewsey.

Churches and individuals are being asked to pledge mission funds to the Victim Ministry Endowment Fund which will, within three years, provide a permanent fund to coordinate and



Norma Gable, Victim Ministry Coordinator (l) and Mary Lou Bewsey, Volunteer Assistant

train volunteers to assist victims. About 10% (\$50,000) has already been raised. Victims are supported regardless if their case is prosecuted and whatever their faith background.

Victim Ministry Volunteers reach out to create a safe place for victims to share their grief, loss, and violation with someone offering compassionate listening and pastoral conversation. Remembering victims with cards, phone calls, and visits are normal activities of volunteers.

Of the 4,000 crime victims assisted annually by Crime Victim Services, Victim Ministry has been helping 50 each year. Most in need are victims of homicide, domestic violence, sexual assault, home burglary, and robbery. Currently, 10 - 15 volunteers are active with the Ministry. In three years, the number of victim and volunteer matches should at least triple.

Victim Ministry is provided in the context of a single agency which provides a wide range of victim assistance: court advocacy; hearing notification; emergency financial assistance; 24 hour domestic violence shelter and rape crisis response; victim

"Victim Ministry Volunteers reach out to create a safe place for victims to share their grief, loss, and violation."

offender mediation, and; victim impact panels (for inmates, school assemblies, and court ordered drunk driver panels).

Crime Victim Services' Victim Ministry Volunteers is the first program in the United States to have paid and volunteer staff within a victim assistance agency providing Christian support to victims of crime. When CVS was started by local churches 20 years ago, in 1981, it received all funding from protestant and catholic churches. Victim Ministry was started in 1992, and recently has been operated with money from the Lima United Way Endowment Fund. Donations can be made to Victim Ministry, Crime Victim Services, 338 E. Third St., Ottawa, Ohio 45875. For information call 419-523-1111.

Victim Ministry Volunteers

"God, I was a victim of crime."
As a victim I feel . . .

What I want is . . .

Hope

Please call us.
You're not alone.
Victim Ministry Volunteers
of Crime Victim Services
222-6666 Allen County
323-1111 Putnam County

We Can Help You . . .

- * Find you are not alone
- * Process relationships, emotional trauma and meet your practical needs
- * Strengthen your relationship with God

We Also Understand . . .

- * our feelings about God change
- * our thoughts don't always make sense
- * our memories are not all good
- * our need for more "control" and less fear
- * our show of strength is not as strong as it looks

We Want You to Know . . .

- * You have someone who believes in you and accepts your feelings
- * You have a voice and a story to be told
- * We want to hear from you

We May Help with Practical Needs . . .

- * Emergency assistance for medicine, food, clothing
- * Transportation for court, doctor, or to recover your car
- * Security information and help
- * Replacing documents or filling out insurance forms
- * Support group, church, neighborhood association
- * Lock repair for car or home
- * Car repair
- * Legal help
- * Home repair or cleanup

Thank you to the following people who donated to Crime Victim Services since our last newsletter.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Good Samaritan Fund, Raised to Date \$6,503

Provides emergency financial assistance to victims; new locks, home or car repairs, food, medicine, utilities, or impound fees.

Glennys Henry
Sally Reeder

John Gillivan

Victim Ministry Fund - Raised to Date \$46,260

Encourages faith and spiritual healing for victims of all faiths through Christian Ministry and spiritual support.

Leucile Buhler
Harvest Baptist Church
Triplett Foundation
David and Laura Voth

John Gillivan
Steve and Joy Reichenbach
United Church of Christ, Spencerville
Leland and Joanne Voth

Jeffrey B. Schumacher Memorial Fund - Raised to Date \$12,013

Provides emergency and support needs to victims of crime in Putnam County

Dorothy Campbell

Martin and Betty Schumacher

OPERATING FUNDS

Safety Net Fund - Raised to Date \$6,475

Provides money for matching grants, equipment purchases, case flow emergencies and new building fund.

Daily Justice Fund \$4,126

Provides funds for daily operation of Crime Victim Services.

Allen Co. Pomona Grange #7	Lon and Janice Bohnsted
Boomers Ticket Sales	Daniel and Robbin Clark
Stanley and Joenita Clemens	Larry Comer
Dorothy Debacher	Delphos Herald
Sandy Dieringer	Elder Beerman
Ronald and Carol Feesler	Henry and Bevery Hawk
Randee and David Henson	Lima Allen County Auto Dealers
A.D. and Martha MacDonell, Jr.	Betty Patterson
Bob and Patricia Preston	Quick as a Wink
Robert Quinlan, III	Merrill Raye
James and Carol Schmenk	Phyllis Suter
Treasures Unlimited	Norm and Mary Lou Vercler
Evelyn Vogelsang	Jon and Sally Sommer
Charles Yeagle	Rick and Sharon Young

* * * * *

Please make checks out to Crime Victim Services, and write on the envelope the name of the fund you wish to support. Non-designated gifts will go to the Daily Justice Fund.

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES
116 W. NORTH STREET
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United Way of Greater Lima & Putnam County