

EVM Program

Elder Victim Ministry is a volunteer-based outreach. EVM pairs elder victims one-on-one with staff or a volunteer for safety planning, trauma support, court advocacy during investigations and prosecutions, emergency repairs, spiritual support, legal and financial recovery guidance and mediation services.

Elders are more vulnerable to victimization due to the functional impairments to vision, hearing, mobility, and cognitive abilities that come with aging. Since July of 2011, Elder Victim Ministry has served 1,300 elder victims of violent and property crimes in Allen and Putnam Counties.



Steps to Begin Your Journey:

- Complete an application; participate in an interview; pass a background check
- Identify your preferred location and type of service
- Complete 20-40 hours of training (includes online modules and professional shadowing)

Apply to volunteer online or in person:



Elder Victim Ministry

Allen County • Director **Elysia Bush**
Advocate/Volunteer Coordinator

Evelyn Davis Smith

Felony Advocate

Zach Kreisler

330 N. Elizabeth St., 2nd Floor,
Lima, OH 45801

419-222-8666 • 1-877-867-7273

Putnam County • **Becca Peckinpugh**

338 E. Third St.,
Ottawa, OH 45875

419-523-1111 • 1-877-274-7471

www.CrimeVictimServices.org/

**Love
Shouldn't
Hurt**

Volunteering with

Elder Victim Ministry



"God, I was a victim of crime."

Following the parable of the Good Samaritan who stopped to help a crime victim, Jesus said, "Go and do likewise."

ELDER VICTIM MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS HELP VICTIMS IN 5 AREAS



1) Outreach

- Uncover situations of undetected abuse through law enforcement report look-ups
- Offer safety planning, trauma support, justice system advocacy, emergency financial assistance and mediation
- Provide emotional and spiritual support, service referrals, and follow-up



2) Victim Assistance and Friendship

- Offer support and build a relationship, through phone calls, visits
- Help build solutions together
- Become a positive presence, a light shining in the darkness, in situations that often include negative influences
- Watch for elder abuse indicators: intimidation, threats, exploitation, isolation, excessive control



•3) Prayer and Spiritual Support

- Discuss matters of faith and prayer after victims express an interest
- Ask to pray with victims and to confidentially share their prayers with the other ministry volunteers



4) Good Samaritan Financial Assistance

- Help identify needs and refer to resources
- Identify recipients of emergency funds for minor home or car repairs, taxi rides or gas money for a counseling or court hearings, new doors, windows, or locks, emergency food, and medicine
- Provide strong advocacy to help with financial and emotional recovery
- Guide through ID theft recovery steps



5) Education

- Educate communities of faith: raise awareness; how to engage elder victims; further the ministry with prayer; provide volunteers
- Post bulletin announcements
- Place brochures at businesses, hospitals, & social service offices

Faith Hope Love



Receive Ongoing Support

- Staff will accompany you on initial visit(s)
- Expect guidance & materials to help structure your visits
- Receive ongoing trainings in trauma care and elder abuse

ELDER VICTIM MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HUMAN FACE, HANDS AND FEET OF GOD