



CAP TIPS is a series of periodic messages to assist in the planning and implementation of NCVRW Community Awareness Projects. Please feel free to send your individual questions or requests for assistance to Anne Seymour at annesey@atlantech.net

CAP TIP #9

To Improve Public Awareness

30 YEARS AND 30 WAYS THAT VICTIM SERVICE PROFESSIONALS ASSIST VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME

Introduction

In keeping with the 2014 National Crime Victims' Rights Week theme – “30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice” – this CAP TIP identifies the scope of direct services provided to victims and survivors by victim assistance and allied professionals.

Many people are unaware of the wide range of assistance and supportive services that victim advocates provide on a daily basis. 2014 NCVRW is a great time to educate individuals and communities about victim assistance services, and the professionals and volunteers who provide them.

Your CAP program has identified 30 general services that are provided to victims by both system- and community-based victim assistance professionals. You are encouraged to *adapt this list to your own program and/or jurisdiction* to highlight the specific services *you* provide to victims of crime.

How to Use “30 Years and 30 Ways”

This is a creative “spin” off of the 2014 NCVRW theme that can be used in *all* of your victim outreach and community awareness activities, for example:

- Create a special brochure highlighting “30 Years and 30 Ways” for NCVRW (a sample layout for a three-column brochure is included in this CAP TIP).
- Highlight “one way you assist victims” during each day in April through your website and social media outreach.
- Create 30 posters reflecting the “30 Years and 30 Ways” theme to display at your 2014 NCVRW events
- Ask crime victims to describe how each “way” assists survivors in the aftermath of crime, and document their responses to use in your victim outreach and public awareness initiatives.

30 YEARS AND 30 WAYS WE ASSIST CRIME VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

1. Crime scene response
2. Crisis intervention
3. Basic needs assessment
4. Emergency financial assistance
5. Safety planning
6. Facilitate home safety checks
7. Advocacy or intervention with employers
8. Development or enhancement of the victim's social support system
9. Assistance in addressing physical health issues
10. Assistance in addressing mental health issues
11. Mental health counseling
12. Victim support groups
13. Legal advocacy and assistance
14. Referrals for social services
15. Information regarding what to do in cases of emergency
16. Inform victims of their constitutional and statutory rights under law and help them enforce these rights
17. Provide information and notification about the status of the alleged or convicted offender and/or case
18. Provide information about and assistance with crime victim compensation (for victims of violent crime)
19. Provide orientation to the criminal or juvenile justice system
20. Provide information about and access to services that promote reasonable protection and safety
21. Facilitate victim participation in justice proceedings
22. Provide accompaniment to any justice systems hearings, upon request
23. Provide information about and help in completing a pre-sentence investigation (PSI) interview about the impact of the crime
24. Provide information about and assistance in complete a victim impact statement at sentencing, parole or other release hearings
25. Provide information about restitution and facilitate documenting financial losses to seek restitution
26. Notify the victim of the outcome of the case
27. Provide information about and assistance in accessing any civil remedies relevant to a specific victim or case
28. Sponsor and/or participate in victim/offender programming, such as "Impact of Crime on Victims" classes and Victim/Offender Dialogue
29. Partner with allied justice professionals in offender programming that promotes accountability and future crime prevention, i.e., batterers' intervention programs, sex offender treatment programs, etc.
30. Promote community awareness of victims' rights and services through traditional and social media

For More Information

Please contact National Crime Victims' Rights Week Community Awareness Project Consultant Anne Seymour via email at annesey@atlantech.net; or by telephone at 202.547.1732 (office) or 202.487.7329 (cell).