

Other services available through **Victim Services** include:

Professional Counselling: to help eligible clients of Victim Services access counselling services.

Victim Liaison Officers: to provide information to victims regarding offender release dates from incarceration and other select information.



Contact Information

For more information on **Victim Services**, contact one of the regional offices or provincial headquarters:

St. John's	709.729.0900
Carbonear	709.945.3019/3046
Marystown	709.279.3216
Clarenville	709.466.5808
Gander	709.256.1028/1070
Grand Falls-Windsor	709.292.4544/4548
Corner Brook	709.637.2603/2465
Stephenville	709.643-6588/6618
Port Saunders	709.861.2147
Happy Valley-Goose Bay	709. 896.0446/3251
Nain	709.922.2360

Victim Services Program

Department of Justice and Public Safety
4th Floor East Block

Confederation Building

P.O. Box 8700

St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

(709) 729-7970

victimservices@gov.nl.ca

victimserviceshelp.ca



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Victim Services

Helping Victims of Crime



What is Victim Services?

Victim Services is a program offered through the Department of Justice and Public Safety to respond to the needs of victims of all ages.

Victim Services has two focus areas:

Adults: Services are provided to victims of criminal offences who are 16 years and older. The services focus mainly on victims of violent crimes, but victims of all criminal offences can get assistance. Charges do not have to be laid nor does the offence even have to be reported to the police for you to get help.

Children: Services are provided to victims and witnesses of criminal offences who are under the age of 16 years. The program offers help to children, as well as the child's caregiver when charges are laid. Victim Services can keep the caregiver updated on the court process, assist the caregiver in supporting the child and prepare the child for testifying in court.

If you have been a victim of crime, Victim Services can provide support and professional help if you are going through or may have to go through the criminal justice system.

What services can I expect?

Often victims have said they felt alone and afraid when they became involved in the criminal justice system because there were few services to meet their special needs and concerns. Victim Services can help.

The services you can expect are:

- General information about the criminal justice system and how it works.
- Updated information on what is happening with your case.
- Court preparation to help reduce anxiety so you can participate more meaningfully in the court process.
- Help with preparing a victim impact statement.
- Emotional support and short term counselling as you prepare and go through court.
- A referral to specialized community resources if you need them.

When should I contact Victim Services?

It is usually best to contact Victim Services as early as possible after a crime has occurred. You may contact Victim Services yourself, or a professional may refer you. If you are over 16 years, it is not necessary that charges be laid by the police. However, if charges are laid and the case proceeds through court, Victim Services can provide help before, during and after the court process.

For individuals under 16 years of age and their caregivers to receive services a charge must be laid. Caregiver consent is required.

Not everyone who has been a victim of crime needs these services, but if you do, Victim Services can help.

