

# CRIME VICTIM'S ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

## A) Multnomah County District Attorney Victim's Assistance Program

The Victims Assistance Program is a unit of the Multnomah County District Attorneys Office that provides information and support to crime victims in Multnomah County. The Victims' Assistance Program (VAP) specializes in helping victims of crimes that occur in Multnomah County. The VAP also assists the public by being available to make referrals to appropriate community resources. Contact information is:

### Victims' Assistance Program

1021 SW Fourth Avenue, Room 804

Portland, OR 97204

Phone: 503-988-3222

Email: [DA@mcd.a.us](mailto:DA@mcd.a.us)

### 1. The Victims Assistance Program provides:

- a. Timely information about the Criminal Justice System and Prosecution process to crime victims
- b. 24 hour crisis response to sexual assault victims
- c. Support to victims throughout the prosecution process, from Grand Jury to resolution of the case
- d. Assistance for victims with Crime Victims Compensation Applications, property release, problem solving and referrals to appropriate community based assistance and resources
- e. Advocacy for victims' rights throughout the entire prosecution process
- f. Specialized advocacy for victims of gun violence, crimes committed by juveniles, elder abuse and disabled persons, child abuse, domestic violence and survivors of homicides
- g. Assistance for victims with filing claims for restitution to pay for losses due to the crime

### 2. Notification Procedures

The Records Unit forwards reports to the appropriate Multnomah County DA Unit, which will forward reports to the MC Victims Assistance Program. The reports are reviewed and contact is made by a representative of the program if necessary.

## **B) Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc. (TIP)**

1. TIP is a voluntary nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that those who are emotionally traumatized in emergency situations receive the assistance they need. The Portland/Vancouver Chapter provides these services to the area serviced by the Troutdale Police Department. TIP volunteers can help people impacted by a traumatic event in many ways:
  - Comforting family and friends following the death of a loved one
  - Comforting witnesses to traumatic events such as car crashes, suicides, homicides, and drownings
  - Acting as a liaison between emergency responders and their people affected by a traumatic event
  - Working with disoriented or lonely older persons
  - Helping family members and friends of a recently-deceased person work with the funeral industry
  - Protecting traumatized victims' right to privacy
  - Making sure that in the middle of a chaotic situation, people affected by a traumatic event remember to take medications and to get adequate nutrition
  - Waiting with family members in a hospital emergency room while their loved one is in the care of the hospital
  
2. Crisis Response Team - Trained TIP volunteers will respond 24-hours a day, 7-days a week to offer immediate emotional and practical support to victims of any traumatic event at the request of emergency responders. A telephone information and referral service is available to help emotionally traumatized citizens. In **Portland** call **503-250-7643** and in **Vancouver** call **360-944-8918**. An EVENT TIP responds to include:
  - a. Death by natural causes, homicide, suicide, drowning, or any other means
  - b. Fire, from small kitchen fires to fully involved or fatal fires
  - c. Crimes including rape, assault, robbery, and burglary
  - d. Automobile accidents
  - e. Missing persons cases