

Information on Services available through this program may be obtained by contacting:

**Elderly Crime Victim Assistance
Program Subgrantee:**

M. BOFILL DUHÉ

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Iberia • St. Martin • St. Mary

COURTHOUSE BLDG.

300 IBERIA ST. SUITE 200, NEW IBERIA, LA 70560

Rena Hebert - Program Director

Ph. 337-577-1990

Christy LeJeune - Victim Advocate

Ph. 337-352-9696

Becky Haydel, Victim Advocate

Ph. 337-352-0670

**For information contact
The Satellite Program nearest you:**

Baton Rouge Police Department

1-225-389-4801 • Carolyn Stapleton

Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office

1-318-681-0869 • Janice McGraw

Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office

1-337-491-3737 • Elizabeth Zaunbrecher

Caldwell Parish Sheriff's Office

1-318-649-2345 • Beckie Crain

Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office

1-985-449-4478 • Jodie West

Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office

1-337-236-5657 • Donna Perkins

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Elderly Crime Victim
Assistance Program Subgrantee:
16th Judicial District Attorney's Office
300 Iberia Street, Suite 200
New Iberia, LA 70560-4583
337-577-1990

HELP is available for
**ELDERLY
VICTIMS
OF
CRIME**



ELDERLY CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Victims of Crime Act of 1984

The Victims of Crime Act was passed by Congress in 1984 to provide for direct services to victims of violent crimes. Funding for this program is generated entirely by fines, penalty assessments and forfeited appearance and bail bonds collected by the federal government. The Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement is the state agency designated by the Governor to administer the program in Louisiana. Through approval by the Victim Services Advisory Board and the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, the 16th Judicial District Attorney's Office was awarded federal funds to establish the Elderly Crime Victim Assistance (ECVA) Program to provide direct services to elderly victims.

The information in this pamphlet applies to the Act as amended, 42 U.S.C. 10601.

Eligibility for Services

A person 60 years or older who believes (s)he is a victim of crime in the State of Louisiana which involved the **use of force** or **threat of force** which resulted in emotional and/or physical trauma, **and/or** which involved the **Abuse of Vulnerable Adults** to include "the mistreatment of older persons through physical, sexual, or psychological violence, neglect, or economic exploitation and fraud."

Those Not Eligible For Services

1. The offender and/or an accomplice
2. A victim whose own misconduct either caused or contributed to the criminal attack depending on the degree of such misconduct

Services Provided

Direct services provided to elderly victims of crime and to older persons who are victims of mistreatment through physical, sexual, or psychological violence, neglect, or economic exploitation and fraud will include, but is not limited to:

1. **Crisis Counseling/Intervention** refers to in-person intervention, emotional support and guidance and counseling provided by advocates, counselors/mental health professionals, (through referrals) or peers.
2. **Follow-Up Services** to offer emotional support, empathetic listening and guidance for other-than-crisis reactions after victimization.
3. **Criminal Justice/Support / Advocacy** refers to support, assistance, and advocacy provided to victims at any stage of the criminal justice or legal interventions process.
4. **Referral To Crime Victim Reparation Program** includes making the victim aware of the availability of crime victim compensation, assisting the victim in completing the required forms, gathering the needed documentation, etc. It also may include follow-up contact with the victim compensation agency on behalf of the victim.
5. **Forensic Interview** refers to fact-finding interviews of victims for the purpose of information gathering or furthering services.
6. **Emergency Legal Advocacy** issuing temporary restraining orders, injunctions, other orders and elder abuse petitions.
7. **Information And Referral Service** through telephone or in-person contacts with victim to identify services offered and

support available by **ECVA** Program and other community agencies.

8. **Personal Advocacy** refers to assisting victims in securing rights, remedies and services from other agencies, locating emergency financial assistance, intervening with employers, creditors and others on behalf of the victim, assisting in filing for losses covered by public and private insurance programs, etc.
9. **Safety Measures / Plan** refers to emergencies that are intended to restore the victim's sense of security.
10. **Financial Exploitation**, although VOCA funded programs cannot restore the financial losses suffered by victims of fraud, victims are eligible for support services.
11. **Emergency Financial Assistance**, when funds are available an emergency award may be made when it appears that undue hardship will result if no relief is provided. Victim Emergency Funds may be awarded for:
 - Temporary Shelter for crime victims who cannot safely remain in their current lodgings.
 - Offer measures, such as, repair locks or boarding-up of windows to prevent the immediate reburglarization of a home or an apartment.
 - Provide crime victims with petty cash for meeting immediate needs related to:
 - Transportation
 - Food
 - Shelter
 - Other Necessities