

**FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION OR TO
ACCESS SERVICES,
PLEASE CALL:**

**Cindy Kuhr, Director
Direct Services &
Statewide Outreach**

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“The Ohio Victim Witness Association is a key component of the state’s commitment to the dignity and protection of crime victims and witnesses. The OVWA performs an important function through its efforts to empower crime victims and witnesses. As Attorney General for the State of Ohio, I strongly support OVWA and its role as liason among victims, witnesses, local advocates and the programs that serve them.”

Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro

“The intervention of OVWA allowed for an independent, objective, and sensitive perspective of the needs of all those victimized by the offender’s conduct, including the offender and his family. This was a tragic case involving the deaths of parents of young children. The victims and their families were afforded the opportunity to openly express the impact of that conduct upon them in a safe, nonjudgemental atmosphere. As a result, they began to understand how reconciliation could lead to heaing for all.”

Honorable Jeff Ingraham, Mercer County, Ohio

“The Ohio Division of Parks and Recreation regards our partnership with the Ohio Victim Witness Association as a key component in providing essential services to our law enforcement program. For over a decade, our organization has utilized the professional assistance offered by Cindy Kuhr as an advocate for crime victims. Her affiliation with this program also now offers a unique combination of victim support and investigative resources that make the services offered by OVWA invaluable to an agency like ours.”

Patrick Enright, Law Enforcement State Officer, Ohio Division of Parks and Recreation

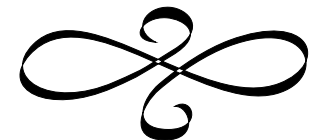
“Coordinating support when an interstate situation is presented is a challenge; with your help in providing for the victim’s needs, our office was able to meet with the victim and obtain essential information to respond to this case. Your ongoing contact and support of the victim and her family is a reassurance that their experience with the criminal justice process will be significantly different than it was when the trial occurred. Ohio’s statewide approach to victim assistance is to be commended.”

Jennifer M. Joyce, Circuit Attorney, City of St. Louis

**RECOGNIZED AND AWARDED AS A PROGRAM OF
EXCELLENCE BY THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE IN 2002.**

O.V.W.A. Ohio Victim Witness Association

**DIRECT
SERVICES
&
STATEWIDE
OUTREACH**



**“HELPING
ADVOCATES HELP
CRIME VICTIMS”**

WHAT IS O.V.W.A. OFFICE OF DIRECT SERVICES & STATEWIDE OUTREACH?

In 2002, the Ohio Victim Witness Association implemented a direct services program to assist advocates across the state of Ohio in their efforts to provide support to victims of crime.

Many jurisdictions have only one advocate or some, no advocate to intervene with and provide assistance to those victimized by crime. OVWA, with the support of a VOCA grant from the Attorney General's Office, developed a program to fill this gap in services and to coordinate with local jurisdictions.

In addition, the Office of Direct Services & Statewide Outreach is available to offer technical assistance and training to new or existing programs which are developing victim services or have no services at all.

MISSION STATEMENT

The O.V.W.A. Direct Services & Statewide Outreach Office will provide direct services, community crisis response and support to jurisdictions with limited resources or no victim assistance programs in order to ensure services for those victimized by crime.

SERVICES

Services provided include assistance with:

- ◆ Crisis intervention
- ◆ Death notification
- ◆ Sensitive investigations
- ◆ Trial support / court escort
- ◆ Community crisis response
- ◆ Child interviews
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Resource / referral

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

The O.V.W.A. Direct Services & Statewide Outreach office coordinates with local programs and other state-wide organizations to avoid duplication of services and to ensure comprehensive, quality intervention with those victimized by crime.

WHO PROVIDES ASSISTANCE?

Support, training and technical assistance is provided by any victim assistance program, law enforcement agency or related organization by O.V.W.A.'s Director of Direct Services and the program's experienced volunteer advocates.