



How Victim Advocacy Improves the Work of Reentry Staff

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Technical Information and Format

- If you experience technical difficulties during the presentation, please email kthornton@csg.org
- Participants will be able to enter questions in the chat box. I will monitor the questions and pose them to the panelists, as pace allows
- As time allows, questions not answered during the presentation will be addressed before the conclusion of the webinar
- Any questions left unanswered at the end of the webinar may be posted and answered with the webinar recording and tools shared during the presentation
- The presentation and tools shared during the webinar will be available after today's event

Workshop Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the role and critical importance of victim services in reentry processes for all reentry providers
- Have knowledge of how victim services can help reentry providers in their work
- Recognize services and needs victims may have at different points in the criminal justice and reentry process AND why it matters to reentry providers
- Identify promising practices and tools used for successful victim advocacy during reentry in Minnesota and Washington States

Who Benefits When Victims Are Involved in Offender Reentry?

Victims

Criminal Justice Professionals

Community

Offenders

Others?

Core Victim Rights and Offender Reentry

Notification

Information

Participation &
Input

Compensation

Restitution

Safety &
Security

Victim input is VALUABLE for successful reentry: Offender

Programming

Conditions of
Supervision

Reunification or
Parenting

Compensation
Obligation

Housing &
Employment

Reduce
Recidivism

Victim input is VALUABLE for the Community and Criminal Justice Professionals

Collaboration

Community
Safety

Criminal Justice
Professionals

Treatment

Victim
Support

Offender
Support

Victim Rights vs. Victim Needs

- Notification
- Information
- Participation
- Financial Assistance

- Safety and Security
- Ventilation and Validation
- Prediction and Preparation
- Information and Education
- Financial and Advocacy Support

Victim Services can help reentry providers by:

- Sharing victim information from pre-conviction through offender reentry
- Acting as a conduit for information sharing between criminal justice professionals
- Improved case management and supervision

Who are the Victim Advocates?

- System Based Advocacy (Victim Witness/DOC/Attorney General)
- Community Based Advocacy (Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, General Crime, Homicide and DWI)
- Corrections Based Advocacy

Criminal Justice Continuum DECISION POINTS FOR VICTIM INVOLVEMENT



Participation & Input

- Safety Concerns (Protective Orders)
- Programming
- Case Management/Release Planning
- Restitution
- Reunification/Parenting
- Victim Offender Contact
- Restorative Justice



Participation & Input

- There must be processes for victims to provide input and participate in post conviction processes including at time of offender reentry.
- Victim impact statements offer vital information to pretrial, probation and parole officer's that can improve offender case management and supervision in the community.
- Victim input at time of offender intake and prior to reentry provide opportunity to participate beyond court processes.

Victim Offender Contact: Challenges/Opportunities

Victims that **have safety concerns**

Challenges

- How do “we know?”
- What can “we do?”
- Who are “our partners?”

Opportunities

- Victim Notification provides a foundation
- Incarceration can provide “time”
- Incarceration behavior can be utilized for additional charges, sanctions, supervision structure
- Victims can be the best source of information for corrections

Victims that **WANT contact**

Challenges

- Some victims don’t see themselves as victims
- Some victims are “family”
- Some victims remain at high risk
- Identifying “coercive contact vs. desired contact.”

Opportunities

- Providing “support” to those not identifying as victims
- Providing information to victims about reentry “rules” prior to reentry
- Reunification collaboration
- Collaboration between incarceration staff and community supervision staff prior to offender release
- Restorative Justice options

Victim Offender Contact

Victim Offender Visiting

- Differences in policy/philosophy/process
- Victim physical and emotional safety when visiting during incarceration is permitted
- Challenges when contact rules during incarceration are inconsistent with rules upon release/supervision\
- Challenges with victim identification
- Role of Victim Assistance Program
- Opportunity for Restorative Justice



Protective Orders

- Each state's protective order laws are different
- Most states have both criminal and civil protective orders
- Most states have "probationary" protective orders which are no longer enforceable once an offender is incarcerated
- Many states face challenges "knowing" about valid/invalid orders
- Many victims are unsure about the validity of protective orders when an offender is incarcerated or released

Protective Orders: Promising Practices

- Screen offenders at intake for active orders
- Develop a “no contact” order for incarcerated offenders
- Collaborate with court services to automate protective orders with corrections
- Develop a process for communication with victims at or prior to offender intake about protective orders
- Collaborate with prosecutors on protective orders/stalking charges if unwanted continued contact takes place during incarceration
- Develop training for correctional officers and parole agents about protective orders

COMPENSATION

**Crime hurts
the whole family.**



Crime hurts victims AND their loved ones. Family members of crime victims can also suffer loss of income, fear and anxiety, and stress-induced physical problems. If you or someone you love has been hurt by crime, there is help. **Please call us.**

There must be clear guidelines and processes for victims on how to utilize crime victim compensation funds for post conviction impacts and support.

RESTITUTION

- There must be due diligence in ordering monitoring, collecting and disseminating the legal and financial obligations of offenders including victim restitution and child support



SAFETY AND SECURITY



- Victims safety should be the primary focus of all reentry decisions and planning at the point offender reentry.
- Police or court documents rarely provide the detailed information that might be critical in making decisions about offender supervision and programming. Providing mechanisms for victims to provide input into reentry is critical.

When Should Advocates and
other Criminal Justice
Professionals begin Involving
Victims in the Offender
Reentry Process?



How can we Involve Victims in Offender Reentry?

- Identifying core rights
- Ensuring mechanisms are in place to afford those rights
- Identifying collaborative partners in the process
- Informing victims of options throughout the continuum
- Engage collaborative partners in the process throughout the continuum
- Developing tools to assist victims in providing input
- Developing mechanisms to provide input to stakeholders

What can or should we do with victim input?

- Transparency: Always be sure victims know what/how information will be utilized – and how won't it be used
- Confidentiality: Always be sure victims know who will be able to access the information they provide
- Communication with stakeholders: Always be sure stakeholders that have access are aware of how information should be used and who should have access

Prior to Offender Intake

NOTIFICATION

INFORMATION

PARTICIPATION
& INPUT

- Law Enforcement
- Community Based Advocates
- Corrections (PSI staff)
- Notification
- Invitation letters/information

COMPENSATION

RESTITUTION

SAFETY &
SECURITY

Intake

NOTIFICATION

INFORMATION

PARTICIPATION
& INPUT

- Victim impact statements
- Notification enrollment
- Restitution
- No contact or safety issues
 - Promising Practice: Minnesota Victim Input at Intake

COMPENSATION

RESTITUTION

SAFETY &
SECURITY

Incarceration

NOTIFICATION

INFORMATION

PARTICIPATION
& INPUT

- Offender Programming
- Restitution
- Victim safety
- Visitation
- Reunification
- Restorative Justice
- Reentry planning

COMPENSATION

RESTITUTION

SAFETY &
SECURITY

Probation and Parole

NOTIFICATION

INFORMATION

PARTICIPATION
& INPUT

- Parole/Release Hearings
- Parole/Release Decisions
- Conditions of Supervision
- Victim Safety
- Violations
- Access to information

COMPENSATION

RESTITUTION

SAFETY &
SECURITY

Information Sharing

NOTIFICATION

INFORMATION

PARTICIPATION
& INPUT

- Impact Statements
- Restitution Orders
- Protective Orders
- Police Reports
- Revocation Reports
- Safety Concerns

COMPENSATION

RESTITUTION

SAFETY &
SECURITY

Collaborative Partners

NOTIFICATION

- Prosecutors
- Victim Witness
- Community Advocates
- Law Enforcement
- Courts
- Adult Protective Services

INFORMATION

- Mental Health
- Compensation Program
- Child Protective Services
- Child Support Enforcement

PARTICIPATION & INPUT

COMPENSATION

RESTITUTION

SAFETY & SECURITY

Promising Practices for Effective Victim Centered Case Planning

- Advocate Exit Checklist
- Victim Input at Intake
- Victim Input at Reentry
- No Contact Directive
- Threat Assessments
- Wrap Around Processes



Minnesota's Input at Reentry



Victim Assistance & Restorative Justice Program Registrant/Victim Reentry Statement

Your Name _____
Victim Name (if applicable) _____
Offender Name _____
Offender Identification Number (OID) _____
Date of Document _____

1. Do you have concerns about where the offender will reside? YES NO
2. Do you have concerns about where the offender will be employed? YES NO
3. Do you and the offender have any children in common? YES NO

Names of the child(ren) _____ Date of birth of the child(ren) _____

4. Do you have a child that is not his/hers? YES NO
5. Are there any court orders regarding custody and parenting time for the children you have with the offender? YES NO

In what county was the order issued? _____

Please provide a general explanation of the order.

Victim Input at Reentry: Minnesota Model

Reentry Statement



Victims and community members may want to provide information, especially about safety concerns, when an offender is being released from a correctional facility on supervised release in the community. The Minnesota Department of Corrections encourages victims and community members to provide information to facility case managers and supervising agents as the information is helpful in understanding victim needs and facilitating offenders release planning and supervision.

For more information, you can go to the 'Reentry Resources' page to learn more about the reentry process.

If you have information or safety concerns that you would like to share, please complete a Reentry Statement Form.

How to Complete a Reentry Statement Form:

1. Click on Download Reentry Statement Form
2. Complete the form and save the form to your computer.
3. Click on Upload Related Documents button if you want to provide documents that you believe helpful or important in the reentry planning process. These documents will be shared with the offender's case manager and/or agent.

Download Reentry Statement Form

Upload Reentry Statement Form

Upload Reentry Statement Related Documents



Minnesota's No Contact Directive



REQUEST FOR NO CONTACT DIRECTIVE

(This is separate from an order issued by the court)

Individuals who do not want to receive contact or receiving unwanted contact from an offender incarcerated in a Minnesota correctional facility may submit a request for a no contact directive. A no contact directive includes written and verbal messages. By submitting a request you are acknowledging that you understand the directive cannot be changed for six months and is separate from an order issued by the court. Once your request has been received, the offender will be served with the directive. Requests may be submitted by mail, fax, or email. The Minnesota Department of Corrections will acknowledge receipt of your request within 10 business days.

Date _____

Contact Information

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address (es) _____

Phone Number (s) _____

If unwanted contacted has occurred, please describe:

Offender Information (Provide as much information as is known)

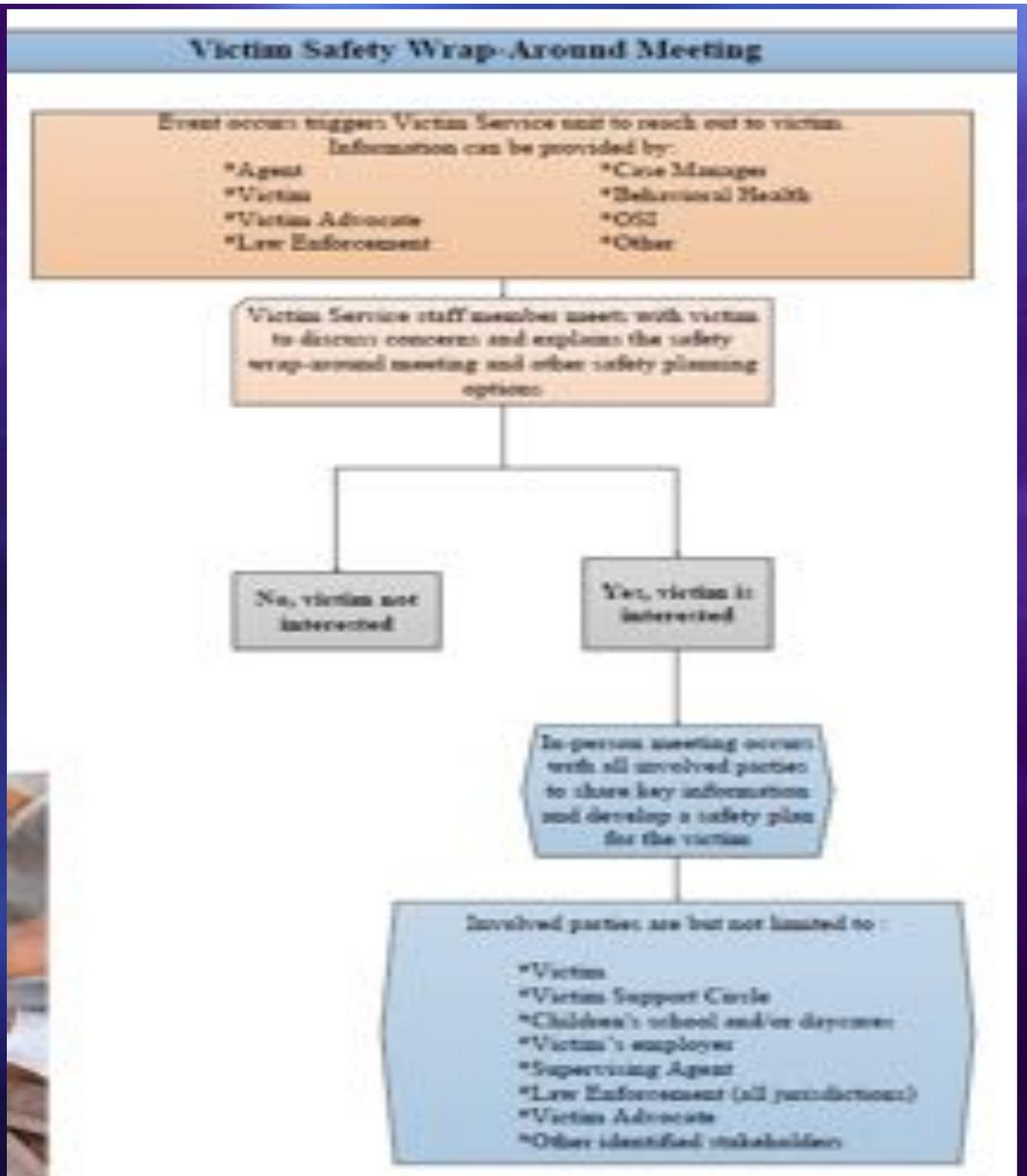
First Name _____ Last Name _____

OID _____ Date of Birth _____

Victim Wrap Around Process

❖ Washington

❖ Minnesota



FINAL THOUGHTS

QUESTIONS ...

TAKE AWAYS ...

고마워

Dankie

OBRIGADO!



GRACIAS!

ありがとうご
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Weebale

THANK YOU!

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