

# CRIME VICTIM and SEXUAL VIOLENCE CENTER - 4610

## MISSION

The mission of the Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center is to provide direct and comprehensive services and advocacy to victims of crime, including sexual assault and other violent crime, while raising awareness of the crime of rape and other forms of violence in the community.

## ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT

The Albany County Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center (CVSVC) provides therapeutic and supportive services to physically and emotionally injured Albany County residents. Services are offered to groups, families and individuals of any age who have experienced a sexual assault or other violent crime at any time in his or her life, or who has been affected by someone else's assault. Crime victims can receive criminal justice and court advocacy and referral services as well as assistance with filing claims for compensation from the NYS Crime Victims Board. Public education programs on interpersonal violence prevention for adults and children are offered throughout the County.

A 24-hour crisis hotline provides counseling and arranges for victims of sexual violence to be accompanied to hospitals and police stations. Specialized services are offered to domestic violence victims and their children through Albany County's Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence Team.

## OUTCOMES

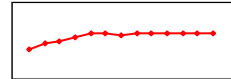
- All Albany County crime victims will be notified of the CVSVC services available to them;
- All victims of sexual assault, violent crimes and domestic violence receiving services from CVSVC will recover emotionally and physically; and
- All citizens of Albany County will know what action to take if a sexual assault of an adult or a child has occurred within the preceding 96 hours.

## DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

As the Early Retirement Incentive was offered broadly throughout the Departments, the 2011 Executive Budget reduces the CVSVC staff by one Sexual Assault Therapist, a Deputy Director and an Administrative Aide position. In addition, a Sexual Therapist position will be converted to a Crime Victim Therapist specializing in serving children position to most accurately meet the needs of clients served by the CVSVC staff. This change will ensure that the CVSVC can continue to focus on some of their youngest clients with the greatest needs.

As a result of the exhaustive program review and specific analysis of CVSVC data and client needs, it has become apparent that clients experience the most critical need for CVSVC services during an initial crisis period and/or when the need for short-term counseling arises. This is consequently the time when the majority of CVSVC clients utilize their services. It is imperative that the CVSVC maintain its ability to respond to those seeking such a unique program in Albany County. As such, the CVSVC will continue to support clients during these heightened periods of need for up to three months or twelve counseling session, whichever is greater, and will assist longer-term clients with referrals to other appropriate agencies in the community. There will be no new limits on crime victim services, such as assistance and support for victims dealing with the criminal justice system.

## APPROPRIATION HISTORY



1998:	\$591,192
1999:	\$740,462
2000:	\$776,972
2001:	\$847,953
2002:	\$921,587
2003:	\$961,570
2004:	\$901,453
2005:	\$936,286
2006:	\$946,432
2007:	\$944,692
2008:	\$962,224
2009:	\$946,899
2010:	\$930,842

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## **STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2011**

CVSVC will complete implementation of a new information and data collection system designed specifically for the Center. The program will allow the CVSVC to better analyze data, generate mandatory reports and create efficiencies related to information sharing within the Department, between agencies that serve mutual clients and documenting results for funding. The efficiencies created by the system are essential to supporting the agency given the reduction in administrative and management staff.