

Victim Assistance in Fairfield County

*Provided by the Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney's Office – KYLE WITT
Office of the Victim Assistance Division*

Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Victim Assistance Division

239 W. Main Street, Suite 101
Lancaster, OH 43130
740-652-7560 (Main Office line)
(Specialize in Felony Crime Advocacy)

Lancaster City Law Director's Office,

Victim Advocates (Employed by Lighthouse)
136 W. Main Street Lancaster, OH 43130
740-687-6616 / 740-687-6778
(Specialize in Misdemeanor Advocacy)

The Lighthouse

Physical location:
327 N. Broad Street Lancaster, OH 43130
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 215 Lancaster, OH 43130
740-687-4423
(Specialize in Domestic Violence Advocacy & Shelter)

Child Advocacy Center

1147 E. Main Street Lancaster, OH 43130
740-652-9604
(Specialize in Child Sexual Assaults)

What is a Victim Advocate?

A victim advocate plays a vital role as a liaison between the victim of a crime and those within the court system. They are dedicated to ensure that the needs and rights of crime victims or witnesses are met and to ensure they are treated with respect and fairness.

Services may include making referrals, help with filing claims, emotional support, and accompanying victims to court. They also help victims deal with the aftermath of a crime. A victim advocate may maintain contact for a long time with a victim or witness, until a criminal is eligible for release from custody.

What can a Victim Advocate Do For You?

- Ensure that victims are kept informed and treated with concern and respect.
- Support victims through initial/outgoing investigation.
- Discuss security concerns and a safety plan with victims of violence.
- Insure victims have confidentiality.
- Provide information to the victims so that he/she can make the best decision.
- Provide essential support and care to victims and their family before, during and after court proceedings have concluded.
- Aid those who may not have proficiency in written and/or spoken English.
- Provide victims and their family with a community resource list.
- Explains to victims the court system.
- Advocate for the survivor or family member of a victim.
- Offer resources for counseling for victims.
- Accompany the victim/survivor to interviews and appointments.
- Help survivors with their needs and preferred outcome in the criminal justice system.
- Communicate with other area advocates.
- Speak for you if you are not able to attend a hearing or meeting.
- Maintain continuous contact with the victim as needed for continued victim support.
- Assist the victim in making informed decisions as they progress through resolution and healing.
- Provide a safe space in which victims/survivors may disclose information.
- Offer guidance on finding answers when questions arise.
- Ensure that the system response to survivors is as fair as possible.
- Assist with VINE (Victim Information & Notification Everyday) notifications.
- Assist with ODRC (Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction) notifications.
- Notify victims of appeal proceedings and prison release.
- Educate the public on the assistance available within their community.
- Attend hearings for prison release and parole board hearings, etc...
- Provide emotional support, empowerment and education.
- Facilitate monthly case status updates before a case moves to hearings.
- Make sure all victim rights are known & are being followed.
- Assist with the physical, financial, emotional, and social injuries from a crime.