



Maryland State Board of Victim Services Annual Report

December 31, 2016

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.
Executive Director
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Submitted by: Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

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Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

V. Glenn Fueston

December 20, 2016

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor Hogan:

On behalf of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention and the Maryland State Board of Victim Services in accordance with Criminal Procedure article Section 11-914, we are pleased to submit this comprehensive report covering fiscal year 2016. This report is submitted, as mandated, to you, the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

The Annual Report contains an outline of the Maryland State Board of Victim Services' accomplishments in FY16, along with recommendations that ensure continued comprehensive, compassionate, statewide services, support and compliance to every crime victim as allowed by law.

During FY16, the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention held its first Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference. The conference offered a plenary and victim centered tracks, one of which was dedicated completely to human trafficking; there were nine workshops all together. Workshops were taught by victim services experts throughout Maryland.

We are very proud of the dedicated work the Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention. We are honored to support you in our shared goals, and to see these efforts benefiting the needs of crime victims in our State. While we are all justly proud of the strides made on behalf of crime victims, we know that the needs of crime victims are ever changing and the Maryland State Board of Victim Services looks forward to working collaboratively with criminal justice, non-profits and other organizations around the state in FY17 to continue to bring dignity, respect, and sensitivity to all crime victims that addresses changing needs.

Sincerely,

V. Glenn Fueston
Executive Director
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Steve Kelly, Esq.
Chair, State Board of Victim Services

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF VICTIM SERVICES

To ensure that all crime victims in the State of Maryland receive justice and are treated with dignity and compassion through comprehensive victim services.

I. Overview

The Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention are pleased to present this report for Fiscal Year 2016. The annual report highlights the important work carried out by the Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, who work in partnership with crime victim service providers, local communities, Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches of State government, and the Federal government to better serve Maryland crime victims. This report encompasses the Maryland State Board of Victim Services' activities for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The Maryland State Board of Victim Services continues its efforts to improve the treatment of crime victims through legislative action, working collectively with criminal justice agencies and private non-profit organizations, creating and expanding innovative initiatives, while welcoming feedback and suggestions from individuals and communities across the state.

II. State Board of Victim Services

Recognizing the unique and distinctive needs of crime victims, the Maryland General Assembly created the Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the position of the State Coordinator in 1988. This was done for the purpose of monitoring, assessing, coordinating and making recommendations concerning state and local efforts to assist victims of crime. The Maryland State Board of Victim Services' mission is to ensure that all crime victims in Maryland are treated with dignity, respect and compassion during all phases of the criminal justice process. In 1991, under the authority of Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, the Maryland General Assembly created the Maryland Victims of Crime Fund to provide funding support for victim services. Maryland Victims of Crime money is generated by the collection of court costs imposed on convicted defendants, which is subsequently used to award grant projects that provide direct services to help crime victims. The Maryland State Board of Victim Services and Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention administer and manage the Maryland Victims of Crime and Legal Service for Crime Victims grant projects.

III. Accomplishments

Listening to State and local criminal justice agencies and service providers in the field, the Maryland State Board of Victim Services took action, which resulted in the following accomplishments:

- The Maryland State Board of Victim Services awarded twenty-two (22) grants totaling \$592,580 in FY16 from the Maryland Victims of Crime Fund for direct services to crime victims.
- The Maryland State Board of Victim Services awarded one (1) grant totaling \$75,000 in FY16 from the Legal Services for Crime Victims fund for legal counsel to crime victims in the criminal court system.

IV. Recommendations to the Governor

The Maryland State Board of Victim Services has articulated specific recommendations for future initiatives. As required by Md. Code, Criminal Procedure §11-914, the Maryland State Board of Victim Services is submitting the recommendations to the Governor for the improvement of the treatment and services available to Maryland's victims of crime, as follows:

Recommendation #1: Provisions should be made to increase costs imposed on convicted defendants in District and Circuit Courts that are distributed into the Maryland Victims of Crime. Increased Maryland Victims of Crime revenue would address the mounting need that is necessary to continue supporting crime victims through services, statewide trainings, federal and state policies, technology and public awareness and community outreach.

Recommendation #2: The Roper Victim Assistance Academy should remain in the state budget supporting basic and advanced training for crime victim service providers and first responders. The certification program for service providers who work at the local and state level provides the necessary skill set to best serve crime victims as they move through the criminal justice system and on with their lives.

Recommendation #3: Maryland should be a leader in the effort to assist the underserved population of crime victims with disabilities through outreach, training and the encouragement of state and local agency collaboration.

Recommendation #4: Maryland should continue to support Victim Information and Notification Everyday for courts, custody, parole, probation, sex offender alert line services as a line item in the state budget.

Recommendation #5: The Maryland State Board of Victim Services should continue to be an active participant with the Maryland Judiciary and Maryland Electronic Courts, a new court case management system with integration of electronic crime victims' rights court forms and information.

V. Membership

Please see Appendix A for a membership list.

VI. Key Initiatives

Victim Information Notification Everyday

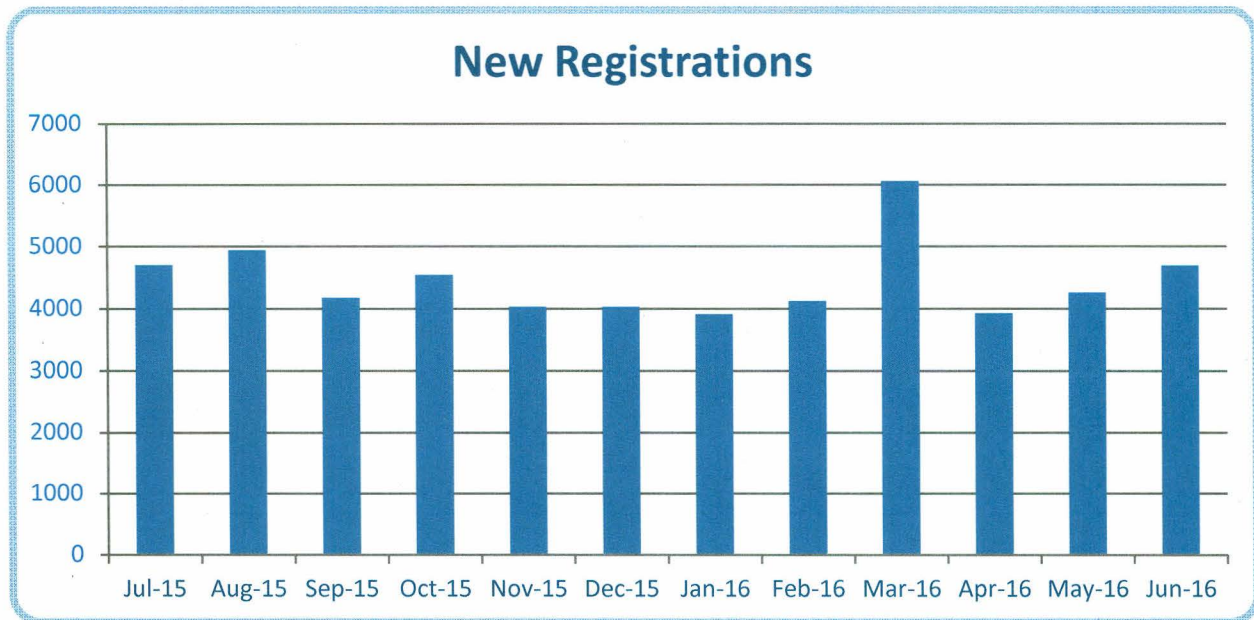
Victim Information Notification Everyday is an information service that provides victims of crime with dates for upcoming court hearings, custody status of offenders in local jails and state prisons, as well as parole and probation notification.

In FY16, the Maryland Victim Information Notification Everyday Statistics (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016) were as follows:

- 251,835 outgoing phone call notifications made on behalf of Maryland to crime victims and the community
- 127,678 email notifications sent
- 53,356 new registrations for the year
- 1,213,391 total site searches (includes Victim Information Notification Everyday link, Victim Information Notification Everyday Watch, phone and Victim Information Notification Everyday Mobile)

Notifications Chart July 2015 – June 2016

This graph illustrates Victim Information Notification Everyday registrations by month for FY2016



Victim's Rights Compliance Initiative

The Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention established the Victims' Rights Compliance Initiative in April 1999 in an effort to remedy crime victims' rights violations. The goal of the Initiative is to improve the criminal justice system's response to victims of crime by allowing them the option to voice their concerns and exercise their statutory right to participate in the process. This is most evident when they feel their statutory rights have been violated at any point in the criminal justice system.

Initiative objectives are as follows:

1. To improve the criminal justice system's response to victims of crime through systematic improvements of services provided to victims; and
2. To give victims an option to voice their concerns and seek system response when they feel that their statutory rights have been violated at any point in the criminal justice system.

In an effort to integrate crime victim access, mandated forms, and information in the developing Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) case management system, the Board, in consultation with the Administrative Office of the Courts, and subject to the authority of the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, has drafted protocols for electronic registration for victim notification in accordance with Chapter 205 of the Laws of 2014.

The Board has also collaborated with the Maryland Judiciary by providing documentation, recommendations, and guidance for the inclusion of Victim Information Notification Everyday system (VINE) and the Crime Victim's Notification Form (CVNF) in the Maryland Electronic Courts system. Crime victims' rights, recognized in current court processing systems, remain an essential component of the planning and successful implementation of the new integrated electronic court system.

The Board formed a Notification Working Group to consult with affected agencies including the Judiciary, the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, State's Attorney's Offices, local law enforcement, and detention centers, to determine the most effective ways to adapt existing notification systems—both the notification initiated by filing of the Crime Victim Notification Form with State's Attorneys and its transmission to the courts and to correctional agencies, and the Victim Identification Notification Everyday system—to function most usefully and more comprehensively as the courts, law enforcement, and correctional agencies implement electronic information systems.

In terms of crime victims' rights, the Office responded to calls, letters and emails from crime victims alleging violations of various crime victims' rights, seeking referrals for direct services and looking for information and explanations about the criminal justice process. Those included:

- Frustration with lack of, or limited criminal justice agency responses to the crime, including the filing of *nolle prosequi* by prosecutors;
- Misunderstanding of civil versus criminal justice system;
- Lack of information regarding case status;
- Delay in processing and/or denial of claims by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board;
- Nonpayment of restitution by offenders granted probationary sentences or parole; and
- Lack of notification of offender's parole, violation of probation, and release from incarceration.

VII. Grant Programs: Maryland Victims of Crime and Legal Services for Crime Victims Funds

The Maryland Victims of Crime Fund was created by the Maryland General Assembly during the 1991 Legislative Session as a source of revenue for programs across the state, dedicated to serving victims of crime. The primary purpose of the Maryland Victims Of Crime Fund is to ensure implementation of the Declaration of Crime Victims' Rights Amendment to the Maryland Constitution and the Guidelines for Treatment of and Assistance to Crime Victims and Witnesses and other laws adopted to benefit victims and witnesses of crime (MD Ann. Code, Criminal Procedure Article §11-916).

The Legal Service For Crime Victims Fund was created to ensure that money obtained from unclaimed restitution under this title is used to provide legal counsel for victims of crime in the criminal court justice system (Md. Code Annotated, Criminal Procedure Article §11-919).

FY 16 Maryland Victims of Crime Funds

The following were identified as the priorities for FY 16:

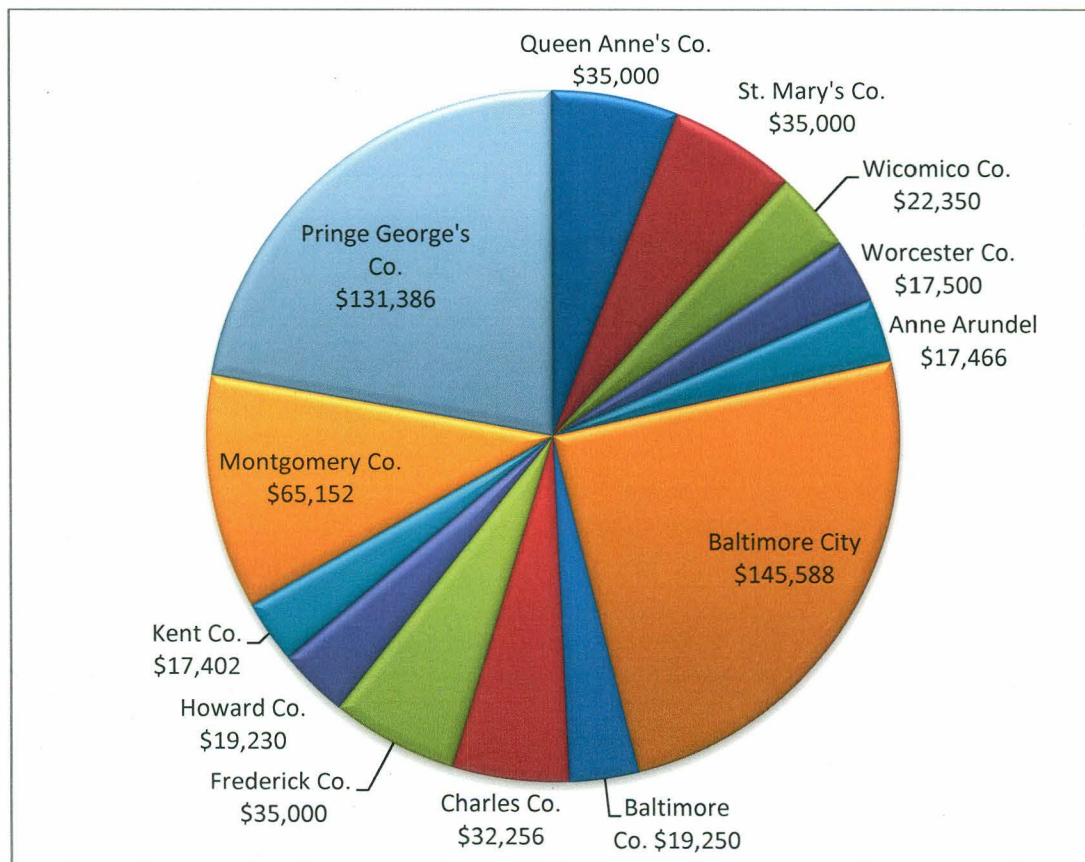
- Direct Services for Victims of Crime;
- Victim Advocates in Law Enforcement;
- Victim Advocates in State's Attorneys' Offices;
- Enhanced services and support for Child Advocacy Centers (Md. Criminal Procedure Code Ann. § 11-916 (2011)); and
- Enhanced services to crime victims that aid and promote the distribution of mandated pamphlets and educate them on their rights according to Maryland law.

The FY 16 Maryland Victims of Crime Awards and Applications (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016)

- Total FY16 Maryland Victims Of Crime awards: \$592,580.00

Maryland Victims of Crime Award Statistical Information

The Chart below shows distribution of FY16 Maryland Victims of Crime Funds by jurisdiction:



FY 16 Legal Service for Crime Victims Awards (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016)

The following were identified as the priorities for FY 16:

- Each year the fund provides a salary for at least one (1) attorney salary.
- The funds allow for legal representation and related legal support services to Maryland crime victims with special emphasis on some underserved victim populations including child, juvenile, elderly victims, sexual assault and families of homicide victims.

VIII. Other Activities

Crime Victim Mandated Pamphlets and Forms

Pursuant to duties of the Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the mandates of the Constitutional Amendment, Declaration of Rights - Article 47 stating that “a victim of crime shall be treated with dignity, respect and sensitivity during all phases of the criminal justice process,” the Maryland State Board of Victim Services developed two pamphlets to ensure that a victim's right to be informed are upheld by law enforcement personnel, commissioners or juvenile justice intake workers and State’s Attorneys. Statutes, entitled Victims and Witnesses, are detailed in Maryland Ann. Code, Criminal Procedure Article, Title 11.

The mandated materials are tracked in a Brochure Database system for the purpose of accountability and cost effectiveness.

The Chart below provides Statewide Distribution of Crime Victim Mandated Materials between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016:

Primary Agency Responsible for Distribution Crime Victim Mandated Pamphlets/Form	Language	Quantity Distributed
Law Enforcement <i>Crime Victims and Witnesses: Your Rights and Services</i>	English	300,000
Law Enforcement <i>Crime Victims and Witnesses: Your Rights and Services</i>	Spanish	28,800
State’s Attorney’s Office <i>Your Rights as a Victim in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Process</i>	English	30,600
State’s Attorney’s Office <i>Your Rights as a Victim in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Process</i>	Spanish	4,800
State’s Attorney’s Office <i>Crime Victim Notification and Demand for Rights Form</i>	English	30,600
State’s Attorney’s Office <i>Crime Victim Notification and Demand for Rights Form</i>	Spanish	4,800
TOTAL Quantity Distributed		399,600

Annual Statewide Memorial Services

The Annual Statewide Memorial Service is one of two annual events sponsored by the Maryland State Board of Victim Services. The annual services are held to honor those who lost their lives to violent crime in the State of Maryland. The event commences with National Crime Victims Rights Week, which traditionally begins each year in April.

The regions are geographically divided as follows:

<u>Eastern Region</u>	<u>Western Region</u>	<u>Southern Region</u>	<u>Northern Region</u>
Caroline	Allegany	Calvert	Anne Arundel
Dorchester	Carroll	Charles	Baltimore City
Kent	Frederick	Prince George's	Baltimore
Queen Anne's	Garrett	St. Mary's	Cecil
Somerset	Montgomery		Harford
Talbot	Washington		Howard
Wicomico			
Worcester			

The 27th Annual Statewide Memorial Service was held on Sunday, April 10, 2016 and hosted by Cecil, Charles, Fredrick and Kent Counties. The 28th Annual Statewide Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, April 2, 2017.

Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference

The first annual Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference was held during National Crime Victim's Rights Week. The conference provided an overview of crime victims' rights throughout the state of Maryland. The conference provided attendees the opportunity to listen, learn and network with speakers and peers about emerging victims' issues and innovative approaches to empowering victims.

Human Trafficking, Justice Reinvestment, Family Justice Centers, Victim Compensation, Victim Rights Laws, Identity Theft & Fraud, Underserved Populations, Cyber Crimes, Interventions or Child Victims, and the Illuminations exhibit, were among some of the topics discussed.

Three individuals were honored for their service to victims by Governor Hogan; this was the highlight of the conference.

IV. Milestones and Accomplishments

Roper Victim Assistance Academy of Maryland

The Roper Victim Assistance Academy (Academy) offers two levels of training to victim service professionals throughout Maryland, a basic 40-hour Academy designed for newer professionals, and advanced and more specialized training programs designed for more experienced professionals. The

basic program is a 40-hour standardized multi-disciplinary academic curriculum program conducted as a one-week residential program. The 13th Academy was held June 1-5, 2016 with 165 professionals graduating from the program.

In addition to the basic training, the Academy also offered two advanced training sessions with 69 participants completing the training. All Academy training is nationally approved and certified for professional certification units and university credits. The Academy offers CEU's and university credits for both the Basic and Advanced training programs. Maryland is recognized as one of the nation's leaders in the movement to advance education and professionalism of the field of victim services.

The Academy's state level certification and professional standards program ties together with certificate programs and courses at University of Baltimore. This year, there was a full Basic Academy class with a diverse group of 35 participants. All students completed the program and graduated. Four Advanced Training sessions were held throughout this fiscal year; all were highly attended and very successful with 130 total participants.

APPENDIX A

State Board of Victim Services Meetings and Membership

The Maryland State Board of Victim Services held two (2) State Board meetings during the period from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 due to the reorganization of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention and the change of membership to the Maryland State Board of Victim Services. During this time, respective committees met periodically. Pursuant to the Maryland Annotated Code, Criminal Procedure Article §11-912, The Maryland State Board of Victim Services of Victim Services membership as of July 1, 2016 is composed of the following members:

Steven J. Kelly	Chair
Barbara Bond	Vice Chair, Attorney General's Office
V. Glenn Fueston Jr.	Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
The Honorable Wes Adams	Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office
Bonnie Ariano	Department of Human Resources
Anne T. Bean	Service Provider, Cecil County Dept. of Social Services
The Honorable Dario Broccolino	Howard County State's Attorney's Office
Jessica Dickerson	Department of Juvenile Services
Lou Gieszl	State Judiciary's Designee, Administrative Office of the Courts
R. Gary Hofmann, III	MD Sheriffs' Association, Queen Anne's County Sheriff
Molly Knipe	Service Provider, YWCA Annapolis and AA County
Adam Lippe, Esq.	Public Member, Baltimore County State's Attorney's Ofc.
Patricia Marshall	Service Provider, Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Ofc.
Cynthia A. Pease	MD Criminal Injuries Compensation Board
Jill Ritter	Public Member, Washington County State's Attorney's Ofc.
Alonzo Robertson	Public Member, Maryland Crime Victim Resource Center
Lisa Spicknall-Horner	Public Member, MADD
Debra Tall	Anne Arundel Police Department
Chief Teresa Walter	MD Association of Chiefs of Police
Jeanne Yeager	Public Member, Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence

As of December 2016, the Maryland State Board of Victim Services has two vacancies.