

Summit County Crisis Response Team

victim
assistance
program™

What is it?

Residents and employees of Summit County need crisis intervention services to address the aftermath of their victimization or traumatic events before being able to engage in their everyday routines. Victim Assistance Program (VAP) is the only agency in Summit County providing this service, 24 hours a day.

The Summit County Crisis Response Team (CRT) is a volunteer based team focused on providing trauma-informed services to victims, family members, and community impacted by crisis, violence, and tragedy. CRT Volunteers offer immediate crisis intervention and advocacy via phone, chat, text, or in-person to address the aftermath of the client's victimization.

Group Crisis Intervention

Goals

- Guiding the release of the emotional aftermath of a traumatic incident
- Addressing large groups of individuals after a community tragedy
- Peer group validations of individuals after a community tragedy
- Group work to establish social support and rebuild community bonds
- Education of community members about trauma and its aftermath
- Affirmation or reaffirmation of hope in the future

Basic Protocol

- Group facilitation follows the National Organization of Victim Assistance Crisis Response Team Model
- Groups are facilitated by VAP staff who are Certified Crisis Response Team Advocates by the National Organization of Victim Assistance
- Groups are comprised of those who share a similar experience
- Groups are typically comprised of 20 to 25 individuals
- Sessions typically last between 1.5 and 3 hours

About Victim Assistance Program

- Accredited by the Council on Accreditation
- Certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health
- Members of the Ohio Crisis Response Team and National Crisis Response Team
- Included in the Summit County Emergency Operation Plan to provide immediate crisis response in the wake of a critical incident within Summit County
- Contracted with the City of Akron and City of Barberton Police Departments to respond to crime scene
- Partnered with Cleveland Clinic Akron General to respond to the needs of victims and families
- Self-referred crisis intervention services are provided via 24-hour hotline or in one of VAP's four office locations.
- Agency-referred crisis intervention services are provided on-scene or in the hospital.
- Services provided to victims are FREE, funded by government grants and local foundations.



How we can help

- Help you create an **action plan**. This will help you determine your options to make informed decisions for your personal physical, emotional, and financial well-being
- Help you create a **safety plan**. This document helps you recognize your trauma responses and identify ways to keep you safe.
- Provide you with expert referrals for ongoing physical and psychological care.

Contact Us

24-hour Hotline | 330.376.0040
24-hour Chat | victimassistanceprogram.org

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