



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** Friday, May 18, 2018

**Contact:** Dana Zedak, Director of Professional Enhancement  
[dzedak@victimassistanceprogram.org](mailto:dzedak@victimassistanceprogram.org)  
(330) 376-0040 x201

**Specialized Training Offered for Those in Helping Professions**

Victim Assistant Program of Summit County is now taking registrations for the June 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> session of The Essentials. The Essentials is one of only two nationally approved comprehensive prerequisite trainings offered in the state of Ohio. The training is open to all those in helping professions including: law enforcement, social workers, counselors, attorneys, medical personnel, first responders, and clergy. Participants who complete the week-long course will learn to use the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) crisis intervention model to help individuals affected by victimization or traumatic events

The 44-hour training is a dynamic mix of classroom and online learning. Participants will gain knowledge about the judicial system, victims' rights, and available community resources. Some topics covered include: history of the victims' rights movement, individualized crisis intervention, human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse, identity theft, missing persons, stalking, homicide, suicide, sudden death, crime scene response, and court advocacy. Weeklong presenters consist of the specialized training team of Victim Assistance Program, Akron Police Department, Barberton Police Department, Summit County Collaborative Against Human Trafficking, Summit County Prosecutor's Office, and the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Tuition is \$275 for the week and includes professional materials, refreshments and a certification of completion. To register, visit [victimassistanceprogram.org/the-essentials](http://victimassistanceprogram.org/the-essentials) or phone Dana Zedak, Director of Professional Enhancement at 330.376.0040.

The mission of Victim Assistance Program is to empower our community to restore lives impacted by crisis, violence, and tragedy. The purpose of the Agency is to provide 24-hour crisis intervention, advocacy, and education to victims of crime and trauma and the professional community who serves this population.

To learn more about Victim Assistance Program's services, and ways to get involved, visit [victimassistanceprogram.org](http://victimassistanceprogram.org) or call our 24-hour hotline, 330.376.0040.

###

**empowering our community to restore lives impacted by crisis, violence, and tragedy**