

The Victim Services Unit is a group of individuals that are trained in crisis intervention to survivors, witnesses, and families who have been traumatized by the experience of death, serious injury, violent crime, or natural disaster.

Following a traumatic event, people often feel helpless, confused and emotionally shocked. After the emergency responders (fire, police, and EMS) conduct their initial investigation and complete their reports, they often have other calls they must respond to. Victim Services response teams can remain with the victim, survivors, and witnesses in the immediate aftermath of a tragedy to assist them with temporary support through the first very difficult hours.

Victim Services can help to get officers and the emergency personnel back on the street more quickly and provide counseling on the scene as well as referrals for other assistance. The more individuals involved as "Victim's Helpers" than by-standers, the greater the positive community impact. Victim Services is always looking for dedicated volunteers to join the program. Those individuals who are interested in becoming a Victim Services volunteer, can contact the Victim Services Division at <u>victimservices@georgetown.org</u>.

GEORGETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY RESOURCES DIVISION 512.930.3510 www.pd.georgetown.org

