## **Our Vision:**

Justice for all Crime Victims

## Our Mission:

With compassion and respect, we assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, homicide and other violent crimes through crisis response, advocacy, therapy, and community awareness.

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Sexual Assault is a violent and traumatic crime. A majority of sexual assaults reported in our community are acquaintance rapes. The perpetrator is known to the victim and forces sexual activity against the will of the victim. Regardless of age or the relationship, forced sex is always a crime. Whether the victim is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or has agreed to have sex in the past, it is against the law to force sexual intimacy on another person.

Per Florida Statue 90.5035, a victim of sexual violence who consults a sexual assault counselor at a rape crisis center has the right to confidentiality of information shared with the counselor.

HOTLINE: 561-833-7273 TOLL FREE: 1-866-891-7273

> Palm Beach County Victim Services Locations:

North County Courthouse 3188 PGA Blvd. Rm. 1436 Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 561-624-6648

West Palm Beach Courthouse 205 North Dixie Hwy., Suite 5.1100 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 561-355-2418 TTY 561-355-1772

South County Courthouse 200 West Atlantic Ave., Suite 120 Delray Beach, FL 33444 561-274-1500

West County-Glades County Bldg. 2976 State Road 15, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Belle Glade, FL 33430 561-996-4871

24/7 Rape Crisis Violent Crime Hotline 561-833-7273 1-866-891-7273

Website: http://www.pbcgov.com/publicsafety/ Victimservices

Services are funded through Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners with grants from the Office of the Attorney General and Florida Council Against Sexual Violence





## THERAPY SERVICES

Palm Beach County
Victim Services
Certified Rape Crisis Center

Department of Public Safety

Have you been a victim of a crime? Do you experience any of the following?

- Inability to fall or stay asleep?
- Feeling anxious or depressed?
- Outbursts of anger?
- Inability to concentrate?
- Feeling emotionally numb?
- Loss of interest in the things you used to enjoy?
- Painful memories of the traumatic event?
- Bad dreams about the traumatic event?
- Flashbacks or a sense of reliving the events?
- Racing thoughts?
- Physiological stress response to reminders of the event? (pounding heart, rapid breathing, nausea, muscle tension, sweating)

If you are a crime victim or have been a victim of crime in the past and are considering therapy, we welcome your call. Licensed therapists are available for appointments Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays in each Palm Beach County Courthouse. Free services include individual therapy for children and adults and adult support groups.

- Identify distressing reactions
- Explore the impact that trauma symptoms have on daily life
- Gradually explore recollection of the crime, to reduce the intensity of emotional responses and symptoms
- Learn about common trauma reactions and phases in healing.
- Feel hopeful and positive regarding the future
- Develop increased comfort when thinking or talking about the crime
- Experience a reduction of trauma symptoms
- Return to work
- Explore the impact on current and future relationships

## Therapy for Children:

- Children ages 6 through 17 years
- Assessment and treatment for child victims of crime
- Therapeutic interventions that teach child safety
- Play Therapy
- Assistance for parents during this difficult time.

