Mission Statement

The Mission of the Victim Services Program of the Vermont Department of Corrections is to help the Department build its capacity to meet the needs of crime victims and provide supportive direct services to victim/survivors of crime when the offender in their case is under the supervision or custody of the Vermont Department of Corrections.
The Vermont Department of Corrections’ Victim Services Program provides information, assistance, and support to victims of crime when the offender in their case is in the custody of or under the supervision of the Vermont Department of Corrections.

These services and programs include;

- Information and notification through the Vermont Automated Notification (VAN) Service
- The Victim-Offender Dialogue Program
- The Vermont Victim Impact Panel Program
- The Apology Letter Bank
- Homicide Survivor Support Group
- Providing information to victims about the offender and the Department of Corrections
- Reviewing requests for victims to visit an offender as well as requests for no contact
- Assisting the victim who wishes to participate in the offender release planning process
- Referrals to community resources

**The Victim-Offender Dialogue Program**

The Victim-Offender Dialogue Program is a victim initiated/centered process that prepares the victim or surviving family member and the offender in their case to meet face to face.

**Vermont Victim Impact Panel Program**

The Vermont Victim Impact Panel Program gives victims of impaired drivers the chance to speak to groups to describe the impact the crime has had on their lives.

**Offender Visitation and/or “No Contact” Request Approval**

Victim Services reviews all victim requests to visit the offender in their case and all requests to be placed on the Department’s “Do Not Contact” list.

Request Forms for Visitation and “No Contact” are available on the website (http://doc.vermont.gov/victim-services). Forms can also be obtained from the Victim Services Program or the offender’s caseworker.

**Offender Locator**

The location of any offender under the supervision or custody of the Vermont Department of Corrections can be found through the VAN Service at WWW.vinelink.com

**Apology Letter Bank**

Victim Services keeps all apology letters written by offenders on file until the victim asks to receive them. Victims can register with the Victim Services Program to receive a copy of the letter if the offender in their case submits one to the Letter Bank.

**Homicide Survivors Support Group**

A quarterly support group open to surviving family members and friends of homicide victims

For further information about the services and programs provided by the Victim Services Program call:

(802) 241-2309

**For additional help with registration or if you have any questions or concerns about the VAN Service contact:**

The Victim Services Program
Vermont Department of Corrections
(802)-241-2309

**The VAN Service** is a free, confidential, 24 hour service that provides victims of crime and members of the community two important services:

**INFORMATION**

The VAN Service will provide the caller with inmate custody status and location information.

**NOTIFICATION**

Callers have the option to register to receive automated telephone or email notification if there is a change in an inmate’s custody status or if there is an upcoming parole hearing.

To get information through the VAN Service or to register for automated notification call:

1- 866-976-VANS (1-866-976-8267)

or log on to www.vinelink.com