



VIRGINIA VICTIMS FUND

Helping Innocent Victims of Crime

OFFICIALLY CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND

A division of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission





After the Crime: Ensuring Victim-Centered Services

Presenter: Kay Bullock, Director

Agenda

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Code of Virginia

Code Of Virginia § 44-146.18 and § 44-146.19

02

About Virginia Victims Fund

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03

Determining Eligibility

VVF's Process for Decisioning

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Beyond Compensation

State Crisis Response & Collaboration with Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services





Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (VVF) shall be contacted immediately to deploy assistance in the event of an emergency as defined in the emergency response plan when there are victims as defined in §19.2-11.01.



Victims defined in §19.2-11.01 include “a person who has suffered physical, psychological, or economic harm as a direct result of the commission of a felony or of assault and battery...” Both shall be the lead coordinating agencies for those individuals determined to be victims.



Local plans shall also contain current contact information for both agencies

Code Of Virginia § 44-146.18 and § 44-146.19





About Virginia Victims Fund

What is Virginia Victims Fund?

The Virginia Victims Fund (VVF) is a state program created in 1977 by the Virginia Compensating Victims of Crime Act § 19.2-368.1.; to help victims of violent crime with out of pocket expenses. These can include medical bills, prescriptions, funeral expenses, and many other expenses.

Mission

The mission of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund is to administer the Compensating Victims of Crime Act in a compassionate, fair and efficient manner. In so doing, the Fund strives to treat every victim and survivor with dignity and respect, recognizing the tremendous impact that violent crime has upon our society.



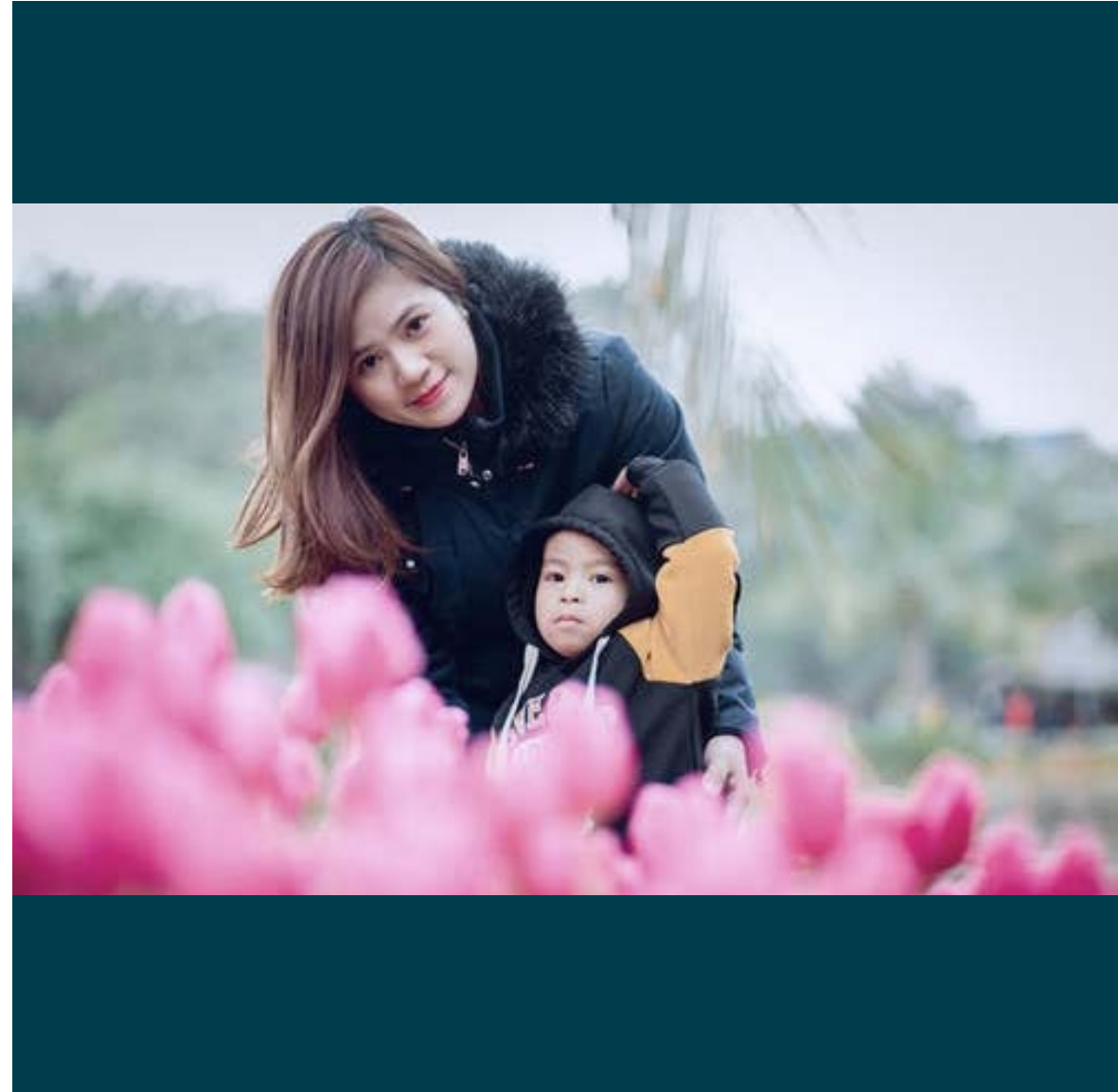


Who Can Apply for Victim Compensation

Eligibility Criteria

A person who has suffered a physical injury as the result of any crime, or has been stalked, or suffered an emotional injury as the result of a violent felony **and** meets all the following criteria:

- Innocent (*not engaged in criminal activity that leads to their injury*)
- Cooperates with law enforcement and Commonwealth's Attorney
- Crime occurred in Virginia (*or to VA resident somewhere without a victim's compensation program*)
- Reported to law enforcement within 5 days (*unless good cause*)
- Files with VVF within 1 year of the incident (*unless good cause*)





The Application Process

How to Apply & What Happens After

01

Complete the Claim Form

The form can be downloaded at www.VirginiaVictimsFund.org or call 1-800-552-4007. Make sure the claim form is signed and properly acknowledged.

02

Claim Assignment & Review

Once the signed application is received, it is reviewed by VVF and assigned a claim number and to a Claims Examiner.

03

Requests for Additional Documentation

You will receive a letter from VVF indicating what documents are necessary to complete your claim.

04

Determining Eligibility

Once the necessary documents are received, VVF will make a decision on your eligibility.

05

Collateral Resources

The Fund is a payer of last resort. Determination of any potential payer (i.e.. Health Insurance, must be made prior to the Fund's ability to pay).

06

Our Payment Process

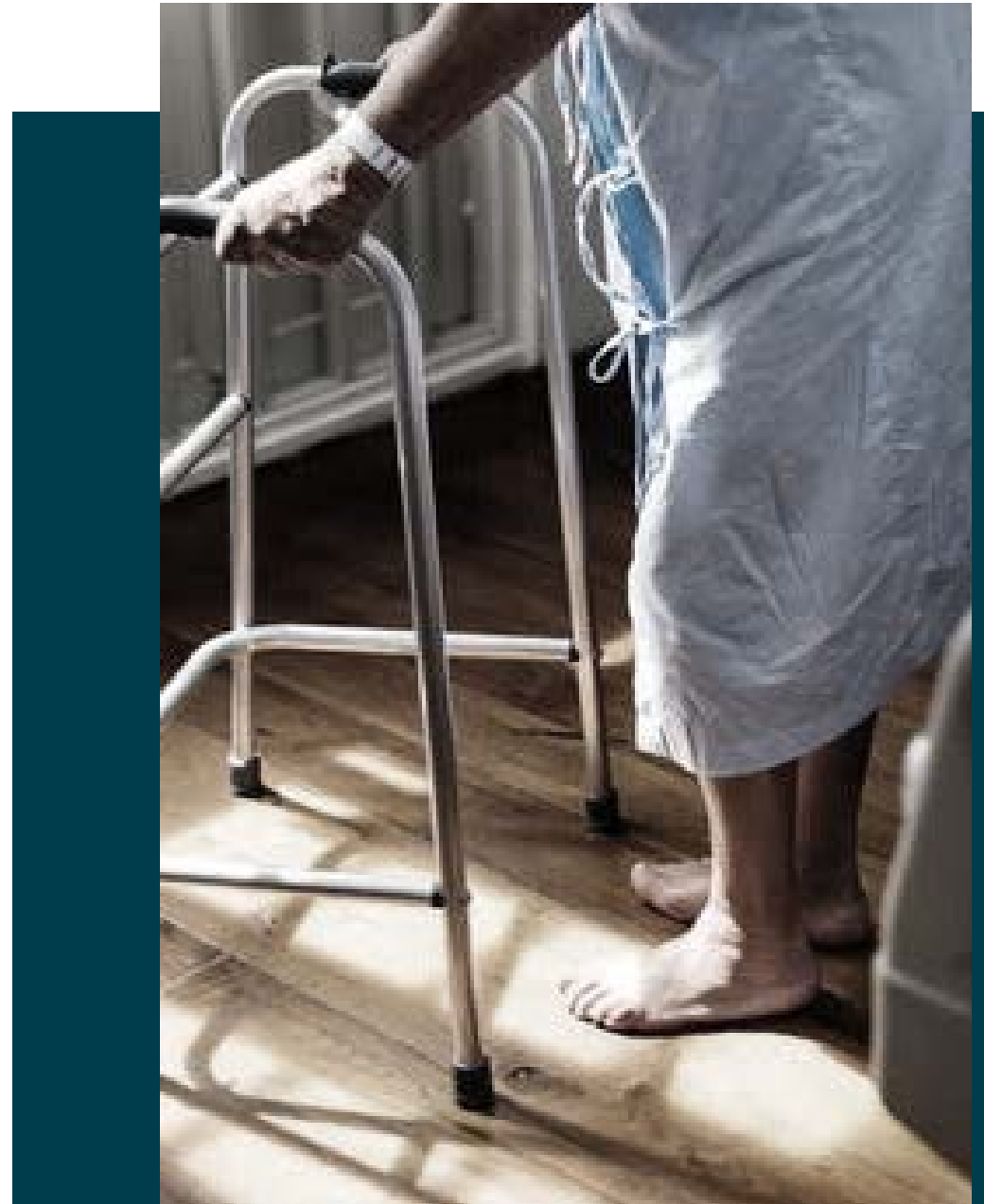
If eligible, any payments owed to providers will be paid directly. Any out of pocket expenses related to the crime will be paid directly to the victim.



Expenses

VVF can assist with crime related expenses, such as:

- Medical & Dental Treatment
- Mental Health Services
- Lost Wages
- Funeral & Burial Expenses
- Loss of support for dependents when a victim is disabled or killed as a result of a crime
- Mileage to medical appointments
- Moving Expenses
- Prescriptions
- **Other Crime Related Expenses**





Crisis Response Beyond Compensation



VVF's Role In Crisis Response

Assistance at Family Assistance Center and Beyond



Victim Compensation

Respond to Family Assistance Center to assist with claim intake and provide outreach services to victims

Resource Coordination

Coordinate with other funding agencies to ensure resources are maximized

Collaborating with Local Resources

Utilize local victim witness assistance programs to work with families

Technical Assistance

Provide technical assistance and support to institutional victims



State Crisis Team Resources

- Work with the locality to ensure that their policies and procedures are victim-centered
- Request federal funding through the Office on Victim's Assistance (OVC), if applicable
- Work with federal consultants to assess community and victim needs
- Anniversary/Memorial Planning
- Other victim-centered services requested by the locality or organization



State Crisis Response Services

How VVF Participates in the STATE CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM



Compensation Assistance

Assist locality with submissions of claims for qualifying victims

Assist with Group Crisis Interventions

Participate within the State Crisis Response Team to assist in facilitating GCIs

Accompaniment Services

Provide Accompaniment Services in conjunction with State Crisis Response Team to connect victims with appropriate resources and support

Technical Assistance and Training

Ensures Victims are aware of Compensation, Filing Deadlines, etc., and assists locality in trainings as needed

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“It takes courage and tenacity for a victim of crime to navigate through the criminal justice system, during their attempt to restore normalcy to their life. CICF/VVF is there to lift up these victims, during their time of need, ensuring that we do all that we can to restore their true self in body, mind and spirit.”

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Evelyn V. McGill, VWC Executive Director





Questions?