

**PEORIA POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

PEORIA POLICE DEPARTMENT VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

- How the victim assistance unit was started
 - Began in 1998
 - Became grant funded in 2008
- Why a victim assistance unit?
 - To establish guidelines and standardize information
 - Needs were expanding in this area

PEORIA POLICE DEPARTMENT VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

- HOW WE UTILIZE VOLUNTEERS FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE:
- CONDUCT FOLLOW UP PHONE CALLS
- MEET WITH VICTIMS FACE TO FACE
- ON SCENE
- PROVIDE VICTIM RIGHTS INFORMATION
- ASSESS THE NEEDS OF VICTIMS
- PROVIDE RESOURCES AND REFERRALS
- ESCORT VICTIMS TO COURT AS NEEDED

PEORIA POLICE DEPARTMENT VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

- PROVIDE VICTIM COMPENSATION INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE) ASSIST WITH APPLICATION
- ASSIST WITH TRANSPORTATION (BASED ON SITUATION)
- ASSIST DV VICTIMS WITH SAFETY PLANS, ORDER OF PROTECTIONS, SHELTER PLACEMENT, DV SUPPORT GROUPS
- PROVIDE EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, CRISIS INTERVENTION

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RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES

- WHAT WE USE:
- Volunteer Program Brochures
- Internet volunteer websites: volunteermatch.org, idealist.org
- City's HR Website
- City Victim Assistance Webpage
- (NOTE: GO TO INTERNET LINK)

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- **RETENTION STRATEGIES:**

- CREATE AN INTERESTING VOLUNTEER ROLE

- PROVIDE TRAINING

- *MAKE IT CLEAR AND CONSISE

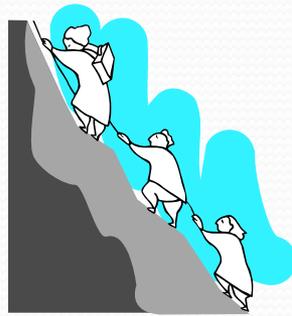
- * ONGOING TRAINING

- EMPHASIZE COMMUNICATION AND TEAM WORK

- *** I'M A MOVEMENT BY MYSELF BUT I'M A FORCE WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER*****

- RECOGNITION

- HAVE FUN!



PEORIA POLICE DEPARTMENT VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

- LESSONS LEARNED:
- DON'T ASSUME!
- BE OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS/IDEAS FROM OTHERS
- FOLLOW THROUGH IN A TIMELY MANNER
- COMMUNICATE BOTH INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY
- HAVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES IN PLACE



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ANY QUESTIONS???

