

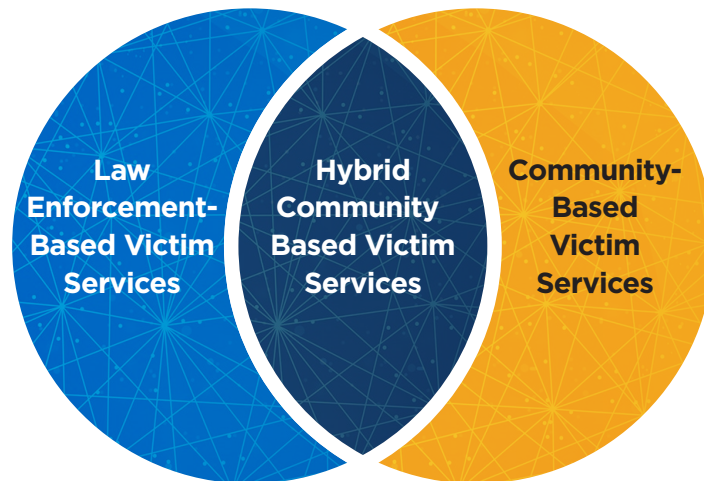
Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services (LEV)

Models of Service Provision
September 2024



Models of Victim Services Provision

Several models of victim services provision exist, including **law enforcement-based**, **community-based**, and **hybrid community-based** models. Before establishing victim services, agencies must determine which model to implement based on the needs and bandwidth of the agency. This decision will affect how victim services are incorporated into the agency (e.g., reporting structure) and how victim services will function (e.g., information sharing, documentation).



Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services

Victim services personnel are

- employed by a law enforcement agency (can include contractors, student interns, and volunteers)
- subject to rigorous background checks and initial and ongoing training
- given access to the agency's record management system (RMS) and Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS)
- representatives of the law enforcement agency

Hybrid Community-Based Victim Services

Victim services personnel are

- employed by a community-based victim services organization, but co-located at a law enforcement agency
- bound by a formal agreement between the community-based organization and the law enforcement agency (e.g., contract or memorandum of understanding) that jointly determines the role of victim services
- typically given read-only access to the agency's RMS and CJIS

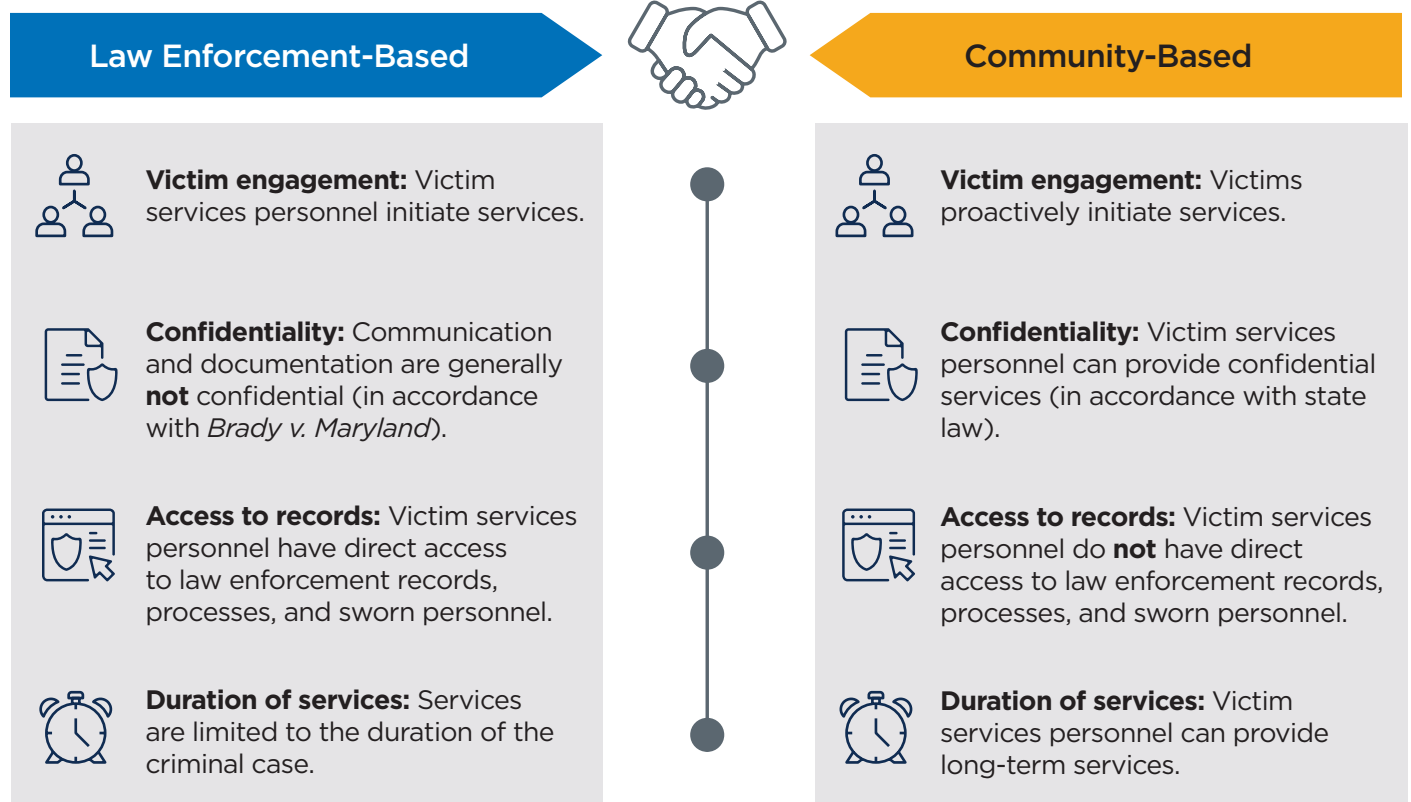
Community-Based Victim Services

Victim services personnel are

- employed by a community-based victim services organization
- possibly engaged in an agreement with a law enforcement agency where partnership contributions are outlined
- held to strict levels of confidentiality and regulations surrounding release of information
- not given access to the agency's RMS and CJIS
- not representatives of the law enforcement agency

Types of Advocacy & Service Parameters

Key differences between law enforcement-based and community-based victim services include which entity employs the victim services personnel as well as local, state, and federal legislation, rulings, and agency policies. Key role distinctions include:



For hybrid community-based victim services, specific parameters will depend on the formal agreement (i.e., contract or memorandum of understanding) established between the agency and community organization and federal and state statutes that govern information sharing.¹

The Need for Both

Community-based and law enforcement-based victim services programs both offer important benefits to victims. Together, they can provide victims with immediate services, a high level of access to information, and the option of confidentiality. To ensure victims are best served, all types of victim services personnel must work together. Partnerships between law enforcement-based and community-based victim services personnel support meaningful victim choice and give victims access to holistic services.²

1. Refer to federal and state statutes, agency policies, and grand funding requirements related to victim services personnel confidentiality or privilege. For more information, see [Law Enforcement-Associated Victim Service providers and the Brady Rule: Legal Background and Considerations](#).
2. For more information, see [LEV - Effective Partnerships](#).

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