

- **Abused Persons Program (APP):**  
For **mate-related physical abuse assistance** call 240/777-HOPE (4673)  
(24 hour crisis line)

**APP** provides crisis and ongoing counseling, shelter, support and advocacy services to battered women and their families.

Fees for services in most programs are based on a sliding scale based on the clients ability to pay.

Victims' programs serve adults, adolescence and children.

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#### **WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS AS A CRIME VICTIM IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND?**

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As a crime victim you have the right to:

- Be treated with dignity, respect and courtesy
- Receive emergency help as needed
- Be informed of available financial and supportive services
- Receive speedy handling of your case
- Be advised of protection available from intimidation
- Be assisted with prompt property Return

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Behavioral Health and Crisis Services  
Victim Assistance & Sexual Assault Program  
1301 Piccard Drive Suite 4100  
Rockville, MD 20850  
(240) 777-1355 TTY (240) 777-1347  
[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/vasap](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/vasap)**

**Montgomery County  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Behavioral Health and Crisis Services  
Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program**

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***CRIME  
CAN HAPPEN  
TO ANYONE:***

***WE ARE HERE  
TO HELP***

***"Being a crime victim is an experience that one does not plan for; is not prepared for; and has no knowledge of who or where to turn."***

*Victim Testimony from  
The President's Task Force on the  
Victims of Crime*

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## **VICTIMIZATION**

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***Becoming A Victim of crime is a frightening experience.*** The emotional pain caused by a crime and its effect can be devastating, leaving victims feeling helpless and powerless. The Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP) can help.

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## **WHAT CAN VASAP DO?**

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**VASAP** provides:

- Crisis and Outreach Counseling
- Information and referral to appropriate agencies
- Criminal Justice System Support, coordination with the State's Attorney's Office and court accompaniment
- Assistance with media
- Individual and family counseling
- Support groups

In addition, crime victims may be eligible to apply for crime related expenses:

- Up to \$2,500 per crime incident, if victim meets income guidelines:
  - medical expenses
  - damages
  - replacement of property
  - funeral expenses

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## **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR VASAP SERVICES?**

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Any person who resides in or is the victim of a crime committed in Montgomery County is eligible for services from the **Department of Health and Human Services' Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program.**

The services of **VASAP** are also available to men or women victims of childhood physical and/or sexual abuse, sexual assault/rape victims of any age.

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## **HOW DOES A PERSON REACH VASAP?**

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The **Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program** can be reached at 240-777-1355, Monday through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Information, assistance and referral can be provided by phone. Counseling, if needed, will be arranged by the program with a specialized therapist. Evening hours are available.

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## **WHAT SHOULD A PERSON DO IF HE/SHE BECOMES A VICTIM OF CRIME?**

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- Call the police immediately—Dial 911
- Seek medical treatment if necessary
- Seek assistance to achieve a level of safety and security
- Seek additional assistance through one of the following victim services programs:

***The Department of Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health and Crisis Services*** provides a broad range of services to individuals and families.

- ***Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP):*** For **victim assistance** call **VASAP, 240-777-1355** after crimes such as homicide, DWI, robbery, larceny, assault, battery, stalking, vandalism, etc.

For after hours emergency help and for sexual assault assistance call 240-777-HELP (4357) (24 hour crisis line).