



SENIOR VICTIM SUPPORT

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Senior Victim Advocate

Dane County Department of Human Services



Dane County Senior Victim Advocacy

- Funded by the Victim Of Crime Act (VOCA)
- Dane County SVA is the only program in Wisconsin dedicated to victims over age 60
- Began in 2002
- Average 380 referrals per year
- SVA works in collaboration with the Dane County Crime Victim Services and Victim/Witness advocates as well as community service providers

Senior Victimization in Dane County

- Domestic Violence
 - Adult Physical Assault
 - Financial Crimes
 - Theft/Burglary/Robbery
 - Vehicular Crimes
 - Property Crimes
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- Gender- 50/50
 - Age- 60, 70, 80+



Offender & Incident characteristics

- Trusted others
- Resource-dependent on the senior
- Substance use/abuse
- Mental Health disorder
- Unemployed or underemployed
- History of criminality
- Use of weapon in 32 cases



SENIOR VICTIMIZATION

- Fear and Loss
- Affected relationships with trusted others
- Increased risk after arrest or report
- Limited resources to recover from victimization
- Desire for accountability, not punishment

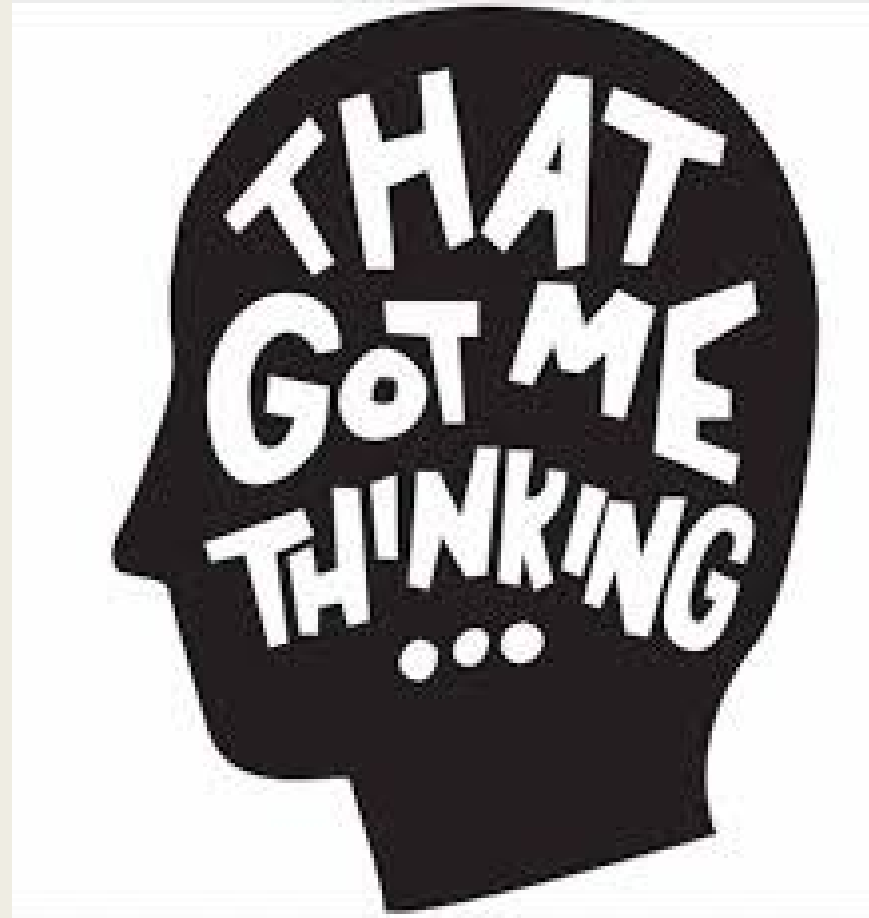
How I help

- Trauma-informed advocacy
- Victim safety and offender accountability
- Preserve victim rights
- Help understand law enforcement and/or criminal justice processes
- Resilience & Recovery
- Emergency Financial Assistance

How we help

- **Believe** someone when they tell you what's happened
- **Support** the individual's choices
- Focus on **safety**
- **Respect** confidentiality and privacy
- Know who to contact
- Know your own limits





QUESTIONS?

RESOURCES

- Wisconsin Elder Abuse Hotline – #833-586-0107 or by email at <https://reportelderabusewi.org>
- Wisconsin Department of Justice- Office of Crime Victim Services: <https://www.doj.state.wi.us/ocvs>
- Dane County Adult Protective Services Helpline - #608-261-9933
- Dane County Senior Victim Advocate - #608-261-7326

THANKS

A BUNCH!

