



# Help for Native American Victims

Information Sheet

The rate of violent crime among Native American communities is well above that of other U.S. racial or ethnic groups. According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice, Native American women suffer one of the highest rates of sexual assault of any ethnic group.

The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) assists Native American victims. Over the last 18 months, CalVCP has assisted nearly 700 Native Americans in California who submitted applications for compensation. Over **\$761,085.52** has been paid to help these victims of assault (43%), child abuse (29%), sexual assault (9%), homicide (7%), robbery (3%) and other crimes. Of the 700 victims and survivors assisted, 64% of applicants were female.

## What is the California Victim Compensation Program?

CalVCP may reimburse victims for expenses that result from qualifying violent crimes. Victims of crime who have been injured or have been threatened with injury may be eligible for assistance from CalVCP.

CalVCP can help Native American victims for crimes that occur in California as well as California residents who become victims while visiting other states or countries.

Additionally, individuals who suffer a monetary loss because of death or injury to a crime victim may also be eligible for compensation. These "derivative victims" can include:

- Spouses or Domestic Partners
- Children
- Parents
- Legal Guardians
- Brothers
- Sisters
- Grandparents
- Grandchildren

## What Expenses Can CalVCP Cover?

CalVCP may help pay for expenses that result from violent crimes. Qualification for one or more of these expenses must be verified and meet CalVCP criteria before payment can be made:

- Medical and Dental Treatments
- Mental Health Services
- Income Loss
- Funeral and Burial Expenses
- Childcare services when a caregiver is killed or disabled
- Home or Vehicle Modifications
- Home Security
- Relocation
- Crime Scene Cleanup
- Loss of Support for dependents when a victim is killed or disabled

## How Does a Victim Apply for Compensation?

Victims can apply for CalVCP assistance in four ways:

- Contact a local county Victim Witness Assistance Center. A victim advocate at the center can help victims complete and submit an application as well as provide other assistance. Most victim witness centers are part of the county District Attorney's office. A list of California Victim Witness Assistance Centers can be found at <http://www.vcgcb.ca.gov/victims/localhelp.aspx>
- Call the CalVCP Help Line at 800.777.9229
- Download an application at [www.calvcp.ca.gov](http://www.calvcp.ca.gov)
- E-mail CalVCP at [info@vcgcb.ca.gov](mailto:info@vcgcb.ca.gov)

When submitting a completed application, include one or more of the following forms of documentation if you have it available:

- Crime report
- An affidavit from a caseworker

## CalVCP Native American Statistics

