



January 21, 2020

Rob Gay  
Chairperson  
Regional District of the East Kootenay  
1164 Windermere Loop Road  
Invermere, BC V0A 1K3

Good afternoon Mr. Gay:

Family Dynamix Association is asking the Regional District of the East Kootenay to give consideration within the geographic area from Canal Flats in the south to Spillimacheen in the north and west to Panorama to enter into a funding agreement to fund an additional 16.5 direct front line hours and associated travel to meet clients being served by the Columbia Valley Victim Services Contract. These increased hours would provide full time hours (40 per week) to the front line staff for direct service. We are requesting this financial partnership on an ongoing basis. The total value of the request to the RDEK for the 2020/2021 year commencing April 1, 2020 is \$33,420.00.

Attached is a brief which includes the services this program provides, previous year's statistical data. A budget has now been prepared for the 2020/2021 year which is included with our request.

The brief was provided previously to each of the Village of Canal Flats, Area F and G Representatives, the District of Invermere and the Village of Canal Flats. Presentations identifying need have been provided to each of these local governments by Sargent Darren Kakuno.

I would be pleased to meet with you to discuss this further should this be required. We are looking forward to continuing to deliver this valuable program in our community with the hours required to meet the increased demand.

Kind regards,

Pat Cope  
Executive Director

Cc: C. Reinhardt, A. Miller, S. Clovechuk, G. Wilke, K. Stertz, D Kakuno

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## **Family Dynamix Association**

### **Formal Funding Request from RDEK for April 1, 2020**

Family Dynamix has administered Columbia Valley Victim Services, a police based program, since the 1980's. For the past number of years we have managed to deliver the program within the budget provided by the Ministry of Justice as the sole funder for this program. Now we are finding the increased need for services impossible to address, with this current funding model. The program which is delivered from the RCMP station in Invermere has been experiencing a demand for services which exceeds the funding provided by the Ministry of Justice for direct service hours. One-time funding to address cost pressures with staffing, from the Ministry of Justice, following the last provincial election in BC, afforded us on the short term, the funds needed to increase the direct service hours to March 31, 2019. Unfortunately on March 31, 2019 Family Dynamix had to reduce the hours back to the previous years to balance the current year's budget. The Ministry of Justice currently funds the Victim Services program for the Columbia Valley annually with \$55,095.00. These funds are broken down as follows: 80% Direct Service Hours, 13% Administration & Facility and 7% Program Costs (which includes travel to meet clients and attend court).

For more than a decade the Ministry of Justice has encouraged a cost-share contribution with local government for police based services. Until now, we have not requested a partnership with local government. The Ministry of Justice contract stipulates that police-based victim service programs are cost-shared 50/50 between the ministry and local governments in the communities with a population of 5,000 or more and where they exist in communities with a police-strength of 4 or more. At a minimum, the Ministry expects local governments to match the Ministry's contribution. This cost-sharing approach recognizes the critical role that police-based victim services play in the police response to crime and trauma, particularly in the area of crises response.

Police Victim Services of British Columbia describes Victim Services in British Columbia as follows:

"There are 92 police Victim Services programs operating out of BC's RCMP and municipal police departments. In these programs dedicated staff, sometimes supported by highly trained, security cleared volunteers from their community, work directly with police to provide emotional support, information and referrals to victims of all kinds of crime and trauma.

#### ***Emotional Support***

*Staff/volunteers provide emotional support in person and over the phone to victims, witnesses and their family members. Although they do not provide counselling, they can make appropriate referrals to counselling services in the community.*

#### ***Information and Practical Assistance***

*Staff/volunteers can provide information on the status of a police investigation, the justice system, and crime prevention. They can also assist with filling out Crime Victim Assistance Forms and Victim Impact Statements.*

## ***Court Support***

*Programs can provide information on the role of the various players in the justice system, the practicalities of testifying as a witness, and updates on court appearances."*

Victim Services in the Columbia Valley does all of the above in the following ways:

- Call outs for RCMP emergencies. Although Victim Services is not on call 24/7 when available we will assist RCMP in emergencies where the victim is in distress, scared and/or in need of support. This support can be for incidents such as sudden deaths, major motor vehicle incidents, notifying next of kin, domestic violence and any other situation that police require assistance with a victim.
- Critical incident stress management is provided to victims at the location of the crime or crisis. Early intervention can help to lessen the impact of crime or trauma.
- Referrals are made to community supports. These referrals include women's outreach programs, safe homes, transition housing, second stage housing, substance use services, medical doctors, mental health, child & youth mental health, STV counselling, Child sexual abuse counselling, children who witness abuse counselling and Youth outreach, to name a few. If the client is from out of jurisdictions than these services are researched and local referrals are made as well as referrals to local victim services.
- Victim services liaises with RCMP and community partners to bridge the gap in services for clients.
- Victim Services has assisted RCMP with school presentation on Healthy relationships, consent and the Criminal Justice system. These presentations serve as pro-active crime prevention and education for youth in the community.
- Victim Services participates in Victims and survivors of Crime week. This is an opportunity to let communities in our area know what victim services does and how we can offer support.
- Victim Services liaises with RCMP and Crown Counsel to keep victims informed and have the victims concerns and needs addressed.
- Victim services is involved in safety planning for any person leaving an abusive relationship.
- Victim services is a proud member of ICAT. ICAT is the Inter Agency case Assessment Team. It is a group consisting of RCMP, Victim Services and community partners that assess highest risk domestic violence.
- Victim Services provides support to victims and witnesses of crime that have to attend court. Court orientations are set up and facilitated by Victim Services and allow for the victim/witness to tour the courtroom before trial and have any questions answered about the court procedures. This provides the victim with added confidence throughout the court process, which can be overwhelming and stressful for victims. Victim Service workers have supported clients from the beginning of the file being opened to the final court proceedings.

- Court updates are provided to victims after every court appearance of the accused. This helps the victim stay informed and part of the process.
- Victim Services prepares victims and witnesses to testify. It is important that victims and witnesses understand what will happen when they are testifying. It eases their stress in an often stressful situation.
- Victim services have assisted clients with preparing and delivering, in open court, victim impact statements. The province of B.C. describes the Victim Impact Statement as follows: "A Victim Impact Statement is a written description of how a crime has affected the victim. A Victim Impact Statement does not include a description of the crime or how the crime occurred. That information should be included in your witness statement to the police. The Victim Impact Statement is used at sentencing if the accused is found guilty or pleads guilty."
- Victim impact statements often take a long time to write. It is a process for clients. They take notes beginning when the traumatic event or crime occurred to often a week before the trial. Then their thoughts are written and delivered to Crown counsel with the assistance of Victim Services. Victim impact statements can be read aloud in court and can be extremely healing for the victim. It is there chance to say what they need to say about what happened to them. This can be a time consuming task but its benefits are unmeasurable.
- Victim Services assists with crime victim Assistance applications. This is an application to assist victims, immediate family members and some witnesses in coping with the effects of violent crime. It provides financial benefits to help offset financial losses and assist in recovery. Victim Service workers often liaise with Crime Victim Assistance Program employees, on behalf of their clients, to keep clients up to date with their applications.
- Victim Services provides follow up contact to all files referred to by RCMP, community referrals and self-referred clients.
- Victim services numbers have doubled in 2018 compared to previous years. This is due to RCMP diligence and an initiative of pro-active crime prevention.
- Victim services in the Columbia Valley is tailored to meet the need of each client. Support is vast and on a wide scale. Every person deserves to be heard and supported and it is our passion to help.

In the Columbia Valley in 2018 Victim Services served the following clients: 35 assault/abuse of a partner clients, 26 criminal harassment clients, 10 sexual assault (adult) clients, 12 sexual assault (child) files, 17 sexual assault (youth) files, 21 Sudden Death clients.

Of all the clients that Victim Services served 15% had permanent residence outside of the jurisdiction.

## Victim Services Annual Budget April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020

These funds are broken down as follows: 80% Direct Service Hours, 11% Administration & 2% Facility and 7% Program Costs (which includes travel to meet clients and attend court).

### PROGRAM REVENUE SOURCES

Revenue Source	Cash	In-kind Contribution	Total
Ministry of PSSG-VSCP	55,921.00		55,921.00
Municipal government			
Regional District	33,420.00		33,420.00
Applicant Organization	1,000.00		1,000.00
RCMP (Facility)		5,820.00	5,820.00
<b>Total from all revenue sources</b>	<b>90,341.00</b>	<b>5,820.00</b>	<b>96,161.00</b>

### PROGRAM EXPENSES

#### 1. Salaries and Benefits

This section of the Budget Proposal includes only salaries, benefits and payroll deductions for direct frontline service staff, program supervision, and clinical supervision.

Title/Position	Salary	Benefits	Funded from VSCP	Funded from RDEK
Program Manager (direct front line service)	58,697.00	10,549.13	40,682.00	28,564.00
Director of Program Management	479.00	40.00	519.00	
Clinical Supervisor	900.00		900.00	
Executive Director	560.00	154.00	714.00	
<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>	<b>60,636.00</b>	<b>10,743.00</b>	<b>42,815.00</b>	<b>28,564.00</b>

## 2. Program Delivery Costs

Eligible Expense Item	Total Cost	Funded from VSCP	Funded from RDEK
Program-related rent/lease/mortgage	6,681.00	861.00	
Program-related office supplies/software	1880.00	1,005.00	875.00
Program-related travel	1,957.00	1,150.00	807.00
Utilities (heat, hydro, internet)	566.00	566.00	
Phone (landline and/or cell)	1,281.00	1,281.00	
Staff training and associated travel	1,312.00	1,312.00	
Resource materials/printing costs	185.00	185.00	
Insurance	1,163.00	1,163.00	
Memberships	196.00	196.00	
<b>Total Program Delivery Costs</b>	<b>13,539.00</b>	<b>7,719.00</b>	<b>1,680.00</b>

## 3. Administration Costs

Eligible Expense Item	Total Cost	Funded from VSCP	Funded from RDEK
Management salary/benefits	1,292.00	1,292.00	
Administrative support wages/benefits	3,894.00	3,394.00	
Administration-related rent/lease/mortgage	96.00	96.00	
Administration-related utilities (heat, hydro, internet)	63.00	63.00	
Bookkeeping/bank fees	4,131.00	3,631.00	
Meetings	85.00	85.00	
<b>Total Administration Costs</b>	<b>9,661.00</b>	<b>8,661.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

### 3. Total Program Expenditures

Expense Area	Total Cost		Funded from VSCP	Funded from RDEK	% of Total Funded from VSCP
Total salaries and benefits	71,379.00	a	39,641.00	31,738.00	55%
Total program delivery costs	15,221.00	b	7,719.00	1,682.00	51%
Total administration costs	9,561.00	c	8,561.00	0.00	89%
<b>Total Program Expenditures</b>	96,161.00	d	55,921.00	33,420.00	100%