## Differences Between System-Based and Community-Based Victim Advocates

Safety,

Referrals,

Victim's Comp

Respect!

## System-based

CRS: 24-4.1-301 to -304

**Victim's Rights Act** 

Works to facilitate prosecution.
Upholds victim rights in the
Criminal court system.

Key concepts: Due process, Legal rights, Criminal act

Serve victims of <u>many</u>
different crime types, not
just Domestic Violence,
Sexual Assault, and stalking

## Community-based

CRS: 13-90-107

**Mandated Confidentiality** 

Works to facilitate self-determination. Provides support in areas which the survivor prioritizes.

Key concepts: Coercion, Pattern of power and control, Safety planning Empowerment,

Engage in community awareness, offer support groups, have shelter services, run 24/7 hotline.

Criminal Justice System-based advocates may work for law enforcement agencies or District Attorneys' Offices to provide victim advocacy within the context of the criminal justice system. Colorado law outlines the communications which victims of certain crimes are entitled to, and the system-based advocates work to ensure those communications happen. Any information shared by a crime victim with a system-based advocate is subject to subpoena.

Community-based advocates work for non-profit organizations that focus on services for people experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking for the purposes of increasing safety, providing support, and enhancing options. Community-based advocates work on behalf of the victim, to help them navigate safety throughout many areas of their lives. Both types of advocates may be working with the same survivor.

Differences between System-based and Community-based Advocates

- Level of confidentiality
- Who is eligible to receive services
- Types of services provided
- Availability of services (24/7 response, go to the home, etc)

If you are interested in finding your local community-based advocacy organization in order to learn more about DV, SA, or Stalking, to request a training for your organization, or to volunteer, please visit <a href="mailto:ccadv.org">ccadv.org</a> and go to the 'Getting Help' tab.