

TESTIMONIALS

JOVM places the offender
face to face with the victim.
You have an opportunity
to see and talk with the

Great way
to understand
everyone.

It's good to talk with
people you hurt.

PARTNERS

Religious Affinity
Action Group of the
Human Services Federation

Lancaster County
Human Services

The Mediation Center

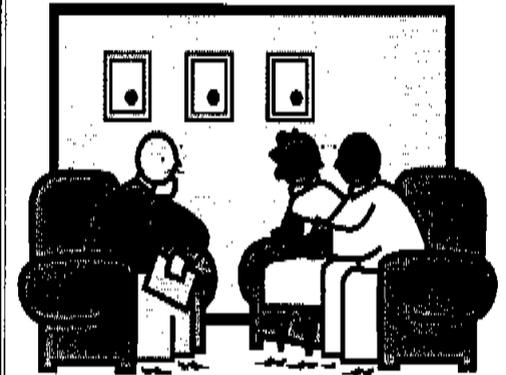
CEDARS
Juvenile Diversion

Lincoln Police Department
Victim/Witness Unit



JUVENILE OFFENDER VICTIM MEDIATION

*A chance for fairness,
accountability, remorse, and
peace.*



What is Victim Offender Mediation?

Victim Offender Mediation is a face-to-face meeting, in the presence of a trained volunteer mediator, between the victim of a crime and the person who committed the crime. In the meeting, the victim and offender talk to each other about what happened and how it has affected them.

They may also choose to create a mutually agreeable plan to repair the harm that occurred as a result of the crime. This agreement will then become part of the offender's juvenile diversion or case plan.

Victim Offender Mediation is voluntary, meaning neither the victim or offender are required to attend. However, the majority of people who participate are glad they did.

You can begin the Victim Offender Mediation process by contacting the individuals listed on this brochure. Once this process begins, both the victim and offender will talk with the mediator separately and they will assist in preparing each of them for the meeting. Once the mediator senses both parties are ready to meet, a neutral location will be arranged for the meeting.

Why Would I want to Participate in Victim Offender Mediation?

Many people choose to participate in victim offender mediation because it offers unique benefits.

Benefits for the Victim

- Have the chance to explain how the crime impacted your life and express your thoughts and feelings about the incident.
- Get answers to your questions about the incident that only the offender can provide.
- Allow the offender to see you as a real person.
- Be directly involved in creating an agreement.

Benefits for the Offender

- Take responsibility for your actions.
- Have the opportunity to repair any harm you caused by your actions.
- Help create your own agreement.

Benefits for Communities

Studies show that youth participating in victim offender mediation are less likely to reoffend, keeping our communities safer for everyone.



*For more information, please
contact:*

JoAnna Svoboda, Victim Advocate
Lincoln Police Department
Victim/Witness Unit
Phone: (402) 441-7181

Kren Shellhase, Victim Specialist
CEDARS Juvenile Diversion
Phone: (402) 437-8873

Sara Hoyle
Juvenile Offender & Victim
Mediation Coordinator
Lancaster County
Phone: (402) 441-8495

