What attitudes/beliefs exist among officers of the Cayuga County Sheriff’s Office about their role in victim response?

Has the integration of the Victim Specialist influenced victims’ engagement with victim services and/or justice-related processes?

What does criminal victimization look like pre- and post-implementation of the Victim Specialist Program (VSP)?

The most frequently reported victimization was identity theft/fraud and financial crime

Purpose:
Study the criminal victimization patterns and the effects of the Victim Specialist Program on crime victims in Cayuga County, New York

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Methods:
Secondary Data Analysis
Analyze agency statistical data related to criminal victimizations/crime victims in the county

Research Review
Locate tools and develop questions to assess officers’ perceptions

Qualitative Data
Survey a random sample of officers about their perceptions and hold semi-structured interviews

Implications:
- Inform victim services practices and give a basis for future areas of program improvement
- Enhance continuation of funding plan by providing evidence of program impact in the community
- Help identify service delivery gaps and areas for improvement
- Consider training that may be needed for officers

The Impact of a Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services Program and Rural/Non-Rural Trends

Cayuga County Sheriff’s Office (NY), Dr. Alison J. Marganski, and Cayuga Counseling Services, Inc.

108 victims of crime received direct supportive services since February 2021