



R I O G R A N D E V A L L E Y E M P O W E R M E N T Z O N E C O R P O R A T I O N

Memorandum of Understanding

This written memorandum of understanding will serve as a collaborative agreement between the **Rio Grande Valley Empowerment Zone “Victims of Crime Program” and Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney** in an effort to provide victim assistance to victims of violent crimes: Survivors of Homicide Victims, Family Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, Human Trafficking, Teen Dating Violence, Child Abuse, and other violent crimes.

This collaboration will help identify victims of crime and exchange information and referrals between both agencies. The Victims of Crime Program’s mission makes the difference through on-going emotional support, education, and advocacy in an effort to decrease re-victimization and achieve victim restoration.

This is a non-binding, non-financial letter of understanding

The RGVEZ “Victims of Crime Program will provide the following services or resources to victims of violent crimes located in Hidalgo, Cameron, Willacy, Jim Hogg and Starr counties.

- Provide victim assistance such as: Crisis Intervention, Support Groups ,Legal Advocacy, Court Accompaniment, Police Accompaniment, Medical Accompaniment, Safety Planning, Information & Referral, Assistance with Crime Victims Compensation
- Facilitate and Collaborate with professional trainings, community education, outreach and presentations on topics in violent crimes. In an effort to provide accessible specialized trainings and education to other allied professionals.
- Offer networking assistance to strengthen prevention efforts in our communities by attending meetings and participating in taskforces.
- Share available data, resources and statistics between both agencies.
- Exchange client information and referrals among both agencies.
- All RGVEZ “Victims of Crime Program” staff will maintain confidentiality requirements in accordance to Federal Confidentiality rules [42CFR 2].
- Legal assistance

Building Communities: Together

P.O. Box 4542 • McAllen, Texas 78502 • 956-424-3276 • Fax 956-424-3050



R I O G R A N D E V A L L E Y E M P O W E R M E N T Z O N E C O R P O R A T I O N

Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney agrees to:

- Identify and Refer victims of violent crimes to the RGVEZ Victims of Crime Program
- Facilitate and Collaborate with professional trainings, community education, outreach and presentations on topics in violent crimes. In an effort to provide accessible specialized trainings and education to other allied professionals.
- Offer networking assistance to strengthen prevention efforts in our communities by attending meetings and participating in taskforces.
- Share available data, resources and statistics between both agencies.
- Exchange client information and referrals among both agencies.
- All Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney staff will maintain confidentiality requirements in accordance to Federal Confidentiality rules [42CFR 2].

Funding for these services are provided by grants and ***no fees or cost will be incurred*** by the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney.

Amendment or Cancellation of MOU

This MOU may be amended at any time in writing and by mutual consent of the parties. This MOU may be canceled by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives the day and year first above written.

Approved:

The undersigned parties accept the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding and bind themselves to the faithful performance of this MOU.

Sam Lara, Interim Chief Executive Officer
Rio Grande Valley Empowerment Zone Corporation

2/16/2022

Date

Ricardo Rodriguez, Jr.
Criminal District Attorney

Date