



KÖZIGAZGATÁSI ÉS IGAZSÁGÜGYI HIVATAL

Victim Support Hungary

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introduction & the implementation of the victims' rights directive

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Office of Public Administration and Justice

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Hungary – some basic data



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- 10 million inhabitants, 20 regions (19 counties + capitol)
- 272.000 were registered as injured parties of crime in 2013 by the police (not including misdemeanours)
- over 60 % of total registered crime was committed against property, about 7 % against persons (2013 data)

Victims in Hungary



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almost always:

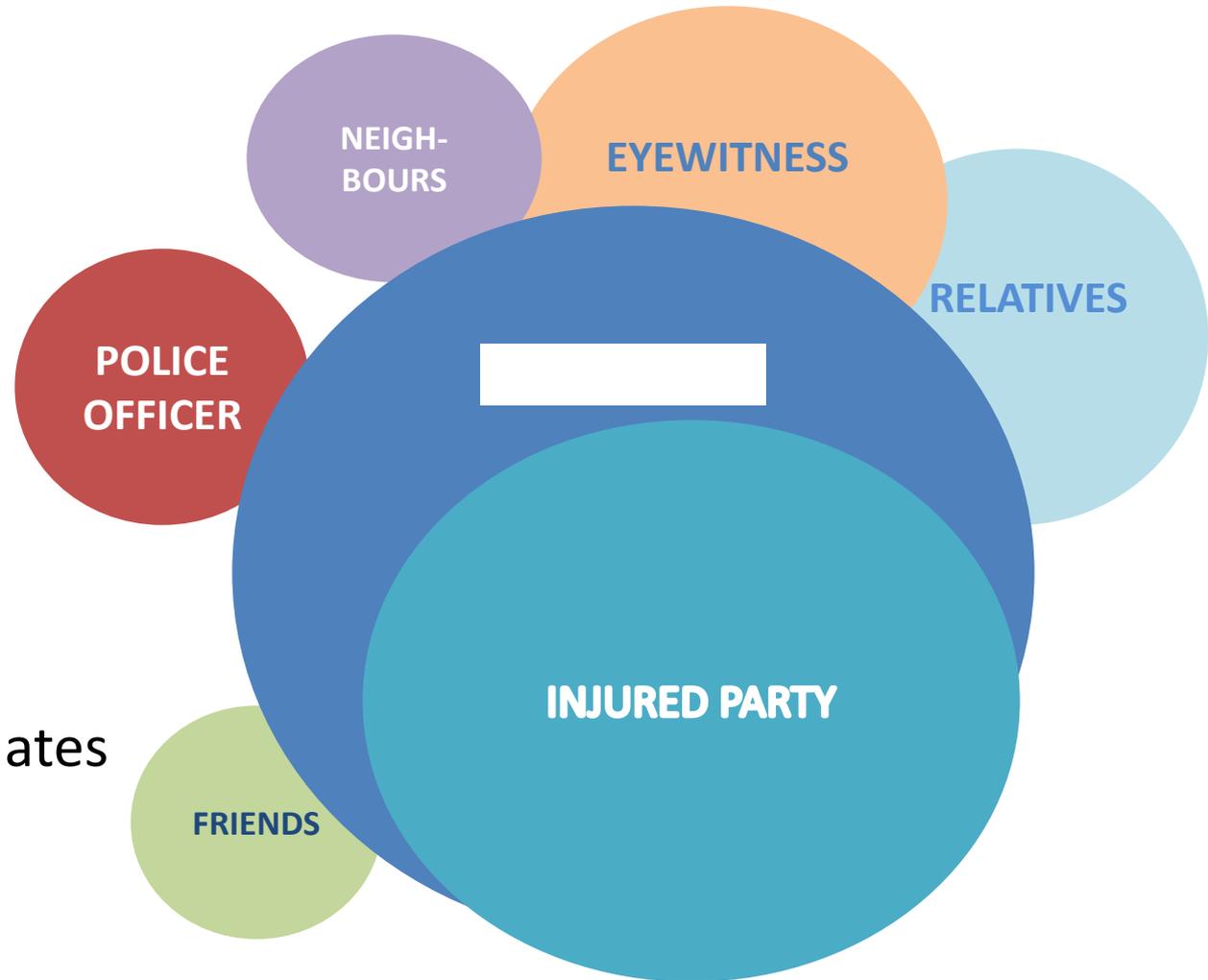
- injured party

possibly:

- relatives
- eyewitnesses

sometimes even:

- neighbours
- friends, school mates
- police officers



ANYONE directly affected by a crime is considered as VICTIM

Institutional framework 1



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Ministry of Public Administr. and Justice

regional Government Offices -
HR, functional conditions

Office of Public Administr. and
Justice (KIH) – professional
management

Justice Services

Victim
Support
Unit

Legal Aid
Unit

Probation &
Mediation
Unit

Victim
Support
Service

Legal Aid
Service

Probation &
Mediation
Service

Institutional framework 2



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Staff on central level:

- Office of Public Administration and Justice, Victim Support Unit – 7 staff members (5 lawyers, 1 psychologist and 1 social worker, all of them civil servants)
- Victim Support Line – 7 staff members (with miscellaneous degrees)

Staff on local level:

- approx. 43 staff members (mostly lawyers, some social workers and psychologists, all of them civil servants)
- approx. 14 administrators (all of them civil servants)
- 24 psychologists (4 civil servants, the rest with other contracts)
- 4 volunteer coordinators (with miscellaneous degrees)
- approx. 200 volunteers

Institutional framework 3



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state specialised services (as part of the social network):

- helpline for D/V and THB victims
- mothers' homes for D/V victims
- shelters for THB victims
- semi-way houses (planned)

NGOs (numerous churches, charities, foundations, etc.)

- mothers' homes
- therapy groups
- helplines etc.

All of the above offer targeted and integrated assistance. Victim Support Service is in direct partnership with most of them on local level, cross-referral is possible, even expected if necessary.

Referral system



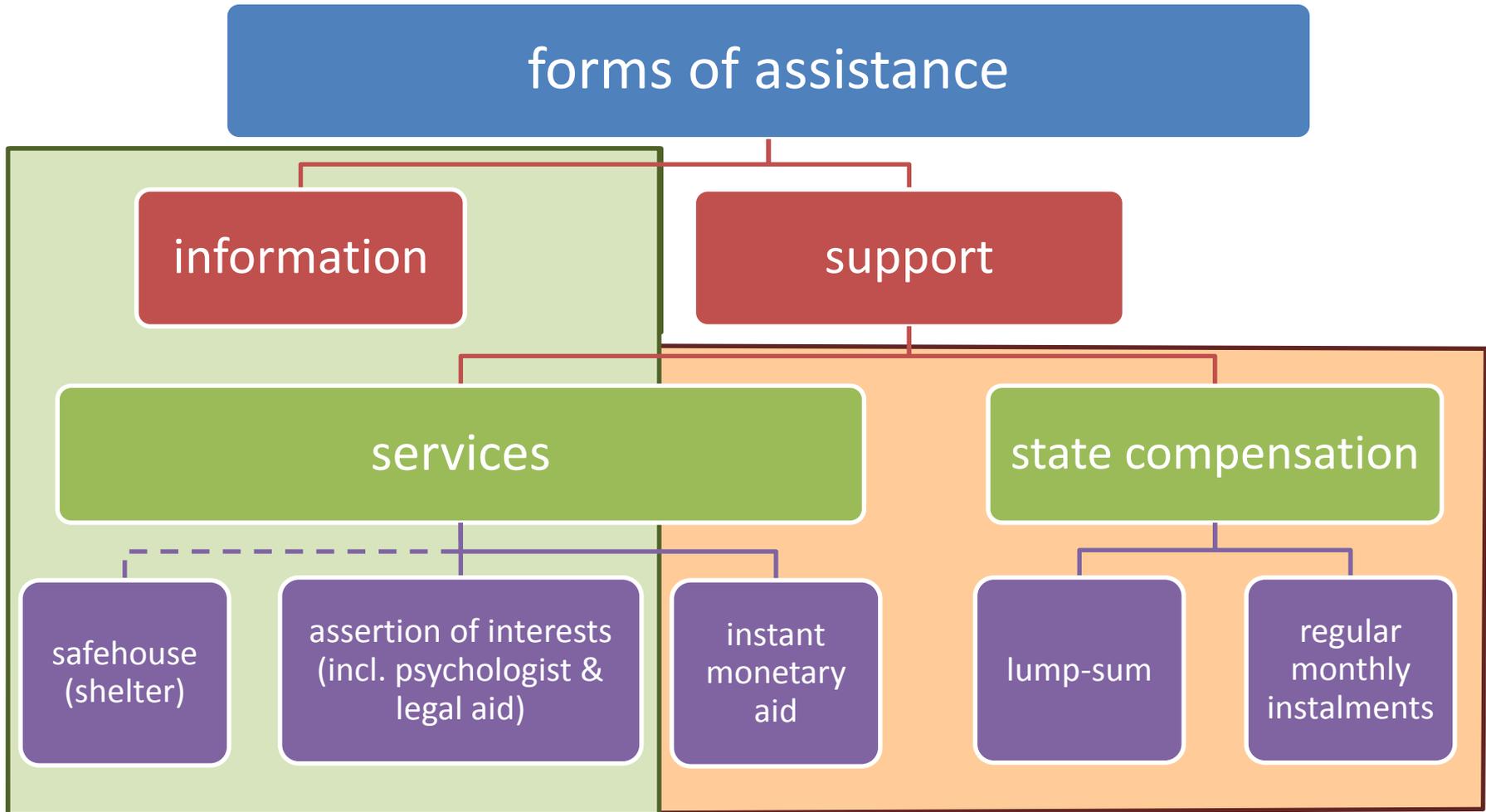
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The support system



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Further duties laid by Victim Support Act 2005

- **duties within the notification system**
 - if experiencing children's vulnerability or
 - in case of D/V
- **asserting prevail of victims' rights**
 - information leaflets
 - annual report
- **co-operation** and contact with co-partners
(victim protection network of the police, investigating authority, prosecutors, judges, Immigration Office, consular services, municipal authorities, health institutions, social institutions, auxiliary police, NGOs, churches)



Programs of victim support services 1.

- **general** activities – awareness raising (in senior clubs, schools, public events, in local and national media)
- **non-competition** based programs
 - THB coordination mechanism
 - Sziget Festival
 - Foresee Research Group's project on peacemaking circles
 - maintaining TEtt programme



Programs of victim support services 2.

- **competition** based (grant-funded) programs
 - interdisciplinary co-operation
 - programs focusing on a special group of victims (e.g. homestead protection program, peer helper program for elderly people, „village-walker”, „conversing policemen”, program for dorm students)
 - presence in the media, „road show”, trainings



Learning good practices

- taking part in international projects



- „Making Justice Systems More Restorative”
- „Form a Chain, Break the Circle” – fighting domestic violence (ISEC)

- „Form a Chain to Safeguard Children” – helping child victims of domestic violence (ISEC)

- participating in international conferences



- participating in international organizations (VSE, WSV)





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Thank you!
Any questions?

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