



Kentucky Refugee Ministries
Victim Advocate (full-time)
Two Positions: Louisville and Lexington, KY

As part of a dynamic team of dedicated professionals in Louisville and Lexington, the victim advocate will implement the outreach and case-management aspects of KRM's Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) program. Basic responsibilities will include conducting outreach on victims' rights and available services, developing relationships with local law enforcement officials and community based agencies, and conducting case-management to assist underserved refugee and immigrant victims of crime as they navigate the services available to them in response to a victimization incident. Each office currently has one victim advocate; these positions are additional and are being added due to high demand for these services.

In keeping with KRM's objective of promoting refugee self-sufficiency, the victim advocate will conduct strengths-based case-management and maintain a referral network for all services not available at KRM.

The victim advocate will be responsible for keeping accurate and up-to-date records for client files, for tracking grant outcomes, for requesting financial expenditures related to the conduct of grant activities, and for executing various administrative duties associated with grant management. Good office and organizational skills are a must.

Essential Duties

The victim advocate will carry out the following activities:

- Develop/gather materials, presentations, and resources to provide information about crimes, resources, rights, etc., particularly relevant to refugee/immigrant victims of crime in Kentucky.
- Coordinate translation of materials into common languages spoken by refugees and underserved immigrants in Kentucky, as needed.

- Give presentations to groups of clients and other underserved immigrants in the community to increase awareness about the importance of reporting crimes and the services available to victims.
- Invite police, FBI, other public safety officials, and other service providers to speak to groups of clients or hold workshops at KRM.
- Connect with other service providers to ensure referral/counter-referral network is in place for victims.
- Provide information on KRM services, interpreter services, and materials in client languages to other service providers.
- Provide training to other providers in various aspects of cultural competence relevant to our clients, as requested.
- Conduct intake interviews with clients who come to KRM seeking support in response to a victimization incident.
- Report incidents to police and/or Child Protective Services as appropriate and required.
- Accompany clients to court as needed.
- Assist clients to obtain protective orders, DV orders, or other relevant protections.
- Refer clients to other service providers as appropriate, including internal referrals to KRM immigration legal services for eligible cases.
- Accompany client to appointments with other providers (Emergency Department or other medical care, shelter, legal aid, or other consultations) as requested.
- Coordinate interpreter services for all meetings with clients, including with other service providers or law enforcement officials.
- Support client in arrangements/communications with employers, schools, and landlords/property managers depending on the situation.
- Provide emergency support for clients' basic needs if appropriate in direct response to a crime (deposit/initial rent for housing, emergency temporary hotel stays, emergency food or other subsistence needs due to displacement due to a serious crime).
- Provide safety planning or counseling as appropriate to clients.
- Document all services thoroughly.
- Work with other victim advocates and the VOCA team to create or conduct other services as needed, such as support groups for immigrant survivors of crimes, or other services as identified by clients and staff.

Agency Profile

Founded in 1990 as a nonprofit agency, KRM is a local affiliate the national network of agencies authorized to provide resettlement services to refugees legally admitted to the United States through the State Department's Refugee

Admissions Program. The KRM Lexington sub-office opened in 1998. In recent years, KRM has served clients originating from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, Burundi, Congo, Cuba, Iraq, Rwanda, Somalia, Syria, Uganda, and Ukraine.

KRM secures housing and medical care for refugees and provides them with comprehensive case management including employment services, ESL and cultural orientation, and various specialized programs. KRM also offers citizenship classes for refugees and immigrants preparing to apply for U.S. citizenship and comprehensive immigration legal services. With clients and staff of diverse backgrounds, KRM does not conduct any religious activities or messaging to clients, and the victim advocate will serve all clients regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or immigration status.

Job Requirements

- College degree preferred
- Experience with social service or refugee service case management strongly preferred
- Self-motivated, able to initiate and follow-through with ideas and tasks
- Strong computer and organizational skills, including proficiency in MS Excel and ability to learn specialized software for tracking and documenting client enrollments and case plans
- Ability to work with clients and staff of diverse nationalities, religions, languages, and cultures
- Passion for serving limited-English-proficient clients and helping them obtain needed services
- Outstanding English communication skills (written and verbal); additional language skills would also be beneficial
- Language skills in a language other than English are highly valued at KRM, but not mandatory. Victim Advocate will use interpreters regularly to be able to serve all clients.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to communicate clearly and effectively with clients, staff, and community partners
- Strong attention to detail and ability to provide clear documentation of services
- Team orientation - ability to work in coordination with agency resettlement staff and the legal team
- Patience and strong commitment to providing individualized language services to refugee clients

Compensation

The Victim Advocate position is budgeted at \$17.00 per hour (\$35,360 per year).

Additional Job Information

This job is full-time (40 hours/week) and offers medical/dental/vision/life insurance, paid vacation/holidays/sick and personal days. One position is based in Louisville and one in Lexington, KY with occasional training or meetings elsewhere in the state. Travel to nearby counties is required. Duties will be conducted primarily during normal business hours, with some evenings or weekends necessary (on a flex time schedule) to be able to respond to assist victims when needed. The ability to drive and transport clients by car is strongly preferred.

Due to COVID, currently a majority of the work hours are remote. But limited in-office work and field work with clients—both under observance of COVID precautions—is required.

To Apply

Please send résumé and cover letter by email, with “Victim Advocate” in the subject line, by December 14th, to the KRM office you are applying to:

Louisville: John Koehlinger, KRM Executive Director, jkoehlinger@kyrm.org

Lexington: Mary Cobb, KRM Lexington Director, mcobb@krmllex.org