

Victim Services of Leeds and Grenville

P.O. Box 1268, 4109 County Rd 29, Leeds County OPP, Brockville ON K6V 5W2 Telephone: 613-341-7700 Fax: 613-345-3202

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To Whom It May Concern;

Victim Services of Leeds & Grenville began offering services to all victims of crime in 2005. As the program was being built and our place within the community being established, we have relied heavily on the expertise and collaboration we've been able to receive from ARCC. It didn't take long to realize that the rural communities that we are working in required a sometimes unusual or unorthodox approach to service delivery in order to best serve our clients. Luckily for us ARCC was willing to listen to our requests and work with us to ensure that all victims of sexual violence had the choice to receive whatever services they could provide.

This relationship has evolved over the years and is now well-established. We rely on the counseling options available through ARCC for numerous clients that do not have any other place to go. We recently have received notice that one of our newer programs (our Youth program) has been successful in establishing evidence that our services are making a difference. This program in particular would not be successful if we weren't able to access ARCC as our partner. As we connect with youth who are struggling with coming to terms with historical and current experiences of sexual and dating violence, ARCC's willingness to work with us in such a seamless manner allows us the opportunity to provide choices and resources to youth who might not otherwise receive them.

Being a service that sits in the crossroads between emergency services and community services, our programs require the cooperation and collaboration of many folks within Leeds & Grenville. We would not be able to do our job if our community partners are not willing to work with us. Luckily for us, ARCC has always stood with us in our quest to provide services to all victims, male and female, all ages and this allows us to do our jobs. We are thankful for their services and believe them to be a critical and integral part of the service delivery required for our two counties and look forward to many more years of collaboration and partnership.

Sonya Joden

Sonya Jodoin Executive Director Victim Services of Leeds & Grenville