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CRIME STOPPERS
OF MICHIGAN

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[CRIME STOPPERS FAMILY MEETINGS OFFER COMFORT AND COMPANIONSHIP]

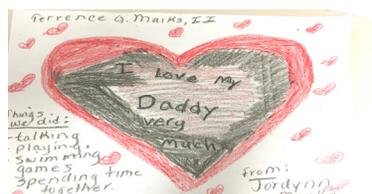
Every other month, on the fourth Wednesday, a group of committed Crime Stoppers staffers meets with family members who have lost loved ones to violent acts of crime. The purpose of these "family meetings" is to provide a caring, compassionate environment for traumatized persons to share with others who know what they're going through because they have shared experiences. It is therapeutic and empowering for all involved.

Sandra Terry is one of the Crime Stoppers staffers responsible for the family meetings. Sandra first came through the doors of Crime Stoppers as a member of one of the families receiving services after a relative was brutally murdered. She was so impressed by the care her family received that she became a volunteer member of the staff and now has become part of the permanent staff as the office receptionist. Sandra feels that the family meetings are some of the most important services provided by Crime Stoppers. Sandra recounts that "From my perspective, it served me well because I was able to interact with other mothers, grandmothers and families, who understood because they had been through what I was going through."

Partnering with Crime Stoppers is Felicia Berry, lead counselor with Open Arms, a division of St. John Providence Community Health. Open Arms mission is to provide support and counseling to adults and children experiencing grief and trauma. Felicia and her staff work to educate the community about grief and trauma and its long-term impact and to provide supportive services, resources, and intervention to crime victims. She and other staffers attend all the Crime Stoppers Family Meetings and even host a few at their E. Outer Drive facility in Detroit. As a family survivor herself, Felicia approaches her work not only with clinical expertise but compassionate empathy.

Most recently, Dr. Christal L. Eason, Ph.D., LMSW has joined the Family Meetings support team. From self-affliction and low self-esteem to divorce and depression, she knows how to not only survive—but thrive—through the fires of life. Like Felicia Berry of Open Arms, Dr. Eason uses her past struggles and strongholds to transform the lives of others, guiding them through transitioning their pain into purpose and prosperity. Her family has been victimized by criminal activity and traumatic death several times over the years, and she has successfully helped relatives while personally persevering through pain. For many, counseling is a career. For Eason, what she does is a calling—a non-negotiable one.

If you and your family are working through issues of grief resulting from the loss of loved ones due to violent crime, we invite you to come and join us. Someone cares. Someone understands. Someone can help.



2019 FAMILY MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Location
January 16	Open Arms
March 20	CSM
May 15	Open Arms
July 17	CSM
September 18	Open Arms
November 20	CSM

The meetings are held from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m at:
CSM Crime Stoppers of Michigan Offices 18000 W. Nine Mile Rd in Southfield, MI.
Open Arms 4777 E. Outer Drive in Detroit, MI.

For more information visit: 1800speakup.org or email: shirley@michiganalliance.org