

Our Support

In 2011 a total of 52 people died on the roads across Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire and many more were seriously injured.

What began as an ordinary day for 16 families in Bedfordshire and 36 families in Hertfordshire, setting off for work, shopping, school or other activities, ended in their worst nightmare: a knock on the door from a police officer with the unenviable task of telling them that one of their loved ones was dead.

The RVT works in partnership with the police and HM Coroner, taking over from them the support of the bereaved and anyone else who is affected by the road death. We know that you may be at the start of a very difficult journey, a journey with no map. We are familiar with the shock, the disbelief, the pain, the anger, the horror, the loneliness and the devastation you are suffering. We can support and guide you through your grief, and enable you to make the practical decisions facing you in the coming weeks and months.

Grief is an essential process, but we know that grief caused by violent, unexpected death affects everyone differently. Our sensitive, personal and entirely confidential services are provided by a team of highly skilled and committed volunteers, all of whom have had intensive training and experience in what you are going through now.

Our support can take a number of forms; information provision, emotional support and legal advice. Our volunteers include a group of barristers and solicitors across Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire with experience in dealing with all of the legal issues arising out of road crashes. The services we provide are:

free and confidential

offered to individuals and families

available for a single occasion, for example at the Coroner's Court, or for regular weekly meetings.

"Both myself and my son will always be grateful for the gifts you have given us, we can now laugh and cry together, enjoying each precious moment whether happy or sad. I know my husband would be very proud of us and thankful that you were there to guide and support us."

"Your commitment, dedication and professionalism have been astounding and it is difficult to find the right words to express my appreciation for the support you have provided."

"My dreams and hopes shattered, my life lost meaning and direction – where do you begin to find the strength to carry on? Without the Trust's help and support to unravel the feelings and emotions, it would have been impossible to bear."



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