

What is Support Link?

Support Link is a program which provides wireless phones to persons at risk of:

- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Stalking

The Support Link phones are pre-programmed to dial 9-1-1, allowing a person quick and easy access to emergency services. This gives an individual a greater sense of safety and increased mobility.

This service is available to individuals residing in York Region and is provided free of charge to those meeting the program criteria.

Referrals are made by York Regional Police, OPP, emergency services, community agencies, professionals and self.

The program intake process, as per criteria, requires an eligibility assessment and safety planning.

What does the Program Provide?

Three components make up the entire Support Link Program. These components are:

- The individual is provided with a mobile phone that is pre-programmed to dial 9-1-1
- A individual safety plan is developed for the person
- The individual receives ongoing support, updates and reviews to the personal Safety Plan.



Who is Eligible for the Support Link Program??

Individual eligibility for the Support Link Program must:

- reside in York Region.
- not already own a wireless/cellular phone.
- not be living with the accused.
- have made a formal complaint to the police.
- be willing to have ongoing cooperation with the police.
- be willing to have ongoing contact with the Support Link Coordinator, to ensure safety issues, changes in situation and continued safety planning are discussed.
- be willing to report any further occurrences of violence and/or threats to the police and Support Link Program.
- be in the process of applying for a court restraining order or already have one.
- understand that the cellular phone is not a long term safety tool, and that other means of protection, planning and safety must be in place.