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# Rhode Island Victims' Resource Guide

Published by:  
Rhode Island Crime Victim Service  
Provider Steering Committee

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## **About the Rhode Island Crime Victim Service Provider Steering Committee**



The Committee is comprised of numerous community-based and government agencies that provide an array of services to children, teens, adults, the elderly, and their families who have experienced crime. Our goal is to ensure victims, survivors, and their families are heard, respected, and have timely access to trauma-sensitive services and supports.

This guide contains general information to help you identify victim-focused services and resources that may be helpful immediately following the crime and, later, in the months and years that follow.

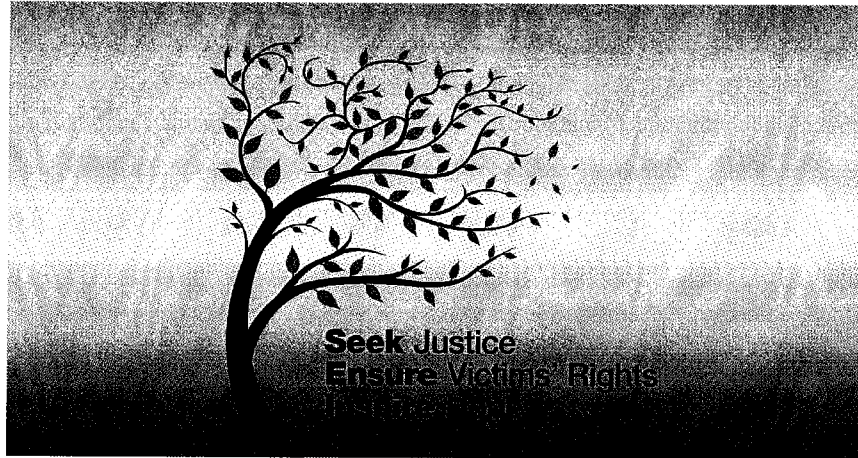
You can access RI Title 12-28 - Victim's Rights at:  
<http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE12/12-28/INDEX.HTM>

## **Crime Victims' Rights Act**

Enacted in October 2004, the Crime Victims' Rights Act (part of the Justice for All Act) gives victims who make a timely report and who cooperate with law enforcement authorities in the investigation and prosecution the following rights in federal criminal cases (18 U.S.C. section 3771):

- The right to be reasonably protected from the accused.
- The right to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any public court proceeding or any parole proceeding involving the crime, or of any release or escape of the accused.
- The right not to be excluded from any such public court proceeding, unless the court, after receiving clear and convincing evidence, determines that testimony by the victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at that proceeding.
- The right to be reasonably heard at any public proceeding in the district court involving release, plea, sentencing, or any parole proceeding.
- The reasonable right to confer with the attorney for the Government in the case.
- The right to full and timely restitution as provided in law.
- The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay.
- The right to be treated with fairness and with respect for the victim's dignity and privacy.

\* *The immediate family member of a deceased victim or a victim who is incapacitated as the result of the crime also has these rights.*



## **The Pursuit for Justice**

In matters of truth and justice, there is no difference between large and small problems, for issues concerning the treatment of people are all the same.

*- Albert Einstein (1879-1955)*

Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable . . . every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.

*- Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)*

Until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other's welfare, social justice can never be attained.

*- Helen Keller (1880-1968)*

## **Inspiring Hope**

There is no medicine like hope, no incentive so great, and no tonic so powerful as expectation of something tomorrow.

- *Orison Swett Marden (1850-1924)*

Just as despair can come to one only from other human beings, hope, too, can be given to one only by other human beings.

- *Elie Wiesel (1928-2016)*

Hope is important because it can make the present moment less difficult to bear. If we believe that tomorrow will be better, we can bear a hardship today.

- *Thich Nhat Hanh (1926- )*

## **Advocating for Victims' Rights**

We are way more powerful when we turn to each other and not on each other, when we celebrate our diversity ... and together tear down the mighty walls of injustice.

- *Cynthia McKinney (1955- )*

We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself.

- *Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)*

If you ever feel like you're just one person trying to change something, I promise there are hundreds, thousands, if not millions of people out there who feel the same way as you, who want to make a difference.

- *Saira O'Mallie (1980- )*

## **Bikers Against Child Abuse of Rhode Island**

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Bikers Against Child Abuse, Inc. (B.A.C.A.®) exists as a body of Bikers motivated, committed and eager to do everything possible to empower children and accomplish our mission to create a safer environment for abused children.



If you are the parent or guardian of an abused child in Rhode Island that could benefit from B.A.C.A.® call the R.I. Chapter Helpline

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

401-487-1760

# **Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP)**

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## **Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Program**

Any past or current Rhode Island victim/survivor of crime may receive the services listed below. For more information or to get started give us a call and ask for VOCA program for a screening. These services are available statewide.



### *Clinical Trauma-informed Outpatient Therapy*

- No copays
- No insurance needed

### *Case Management*

- Basic needs assistance
- Applications for housing, disability, benefits, etc.

### *Advocacy Services*

- Court advocacy
- Accompaniment to law enforcement interviews

### *Community/Home Visits*

- Pending safety assessment of the home

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Linzi Rae Matta, LICSW,  
VOCA Clinician  
401-467-9610

Shannybel Garcia, VOCA  
Case Manager  
401-602-5864  
*Bilingual Spanish*

## **ADDRESS**

1090 Cranston St, 2nd Floor, Cranston RI 02920

## **Day One**

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Providing treatment, intervention, education, advocacy, and prevention services for Rhode Island victims/survivors of sexual abuse and sexual violence. Services are available for victims/survivors of all ages—from preschool children to elder adults.



Our comprehensive services include:

- 24-hour Helpline and legal advocacy
- Law enforcement advocacy programs
- Individual and group counseling
- Professional training sessions
- Prevention education workshops

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

1-800-494-8100



# **Dorcias International Institute of Rhode Island**

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**Immigration Options for Victims of Crime  
Immigrant Victims' Rights Project**



**DORCAS INTERNATIONAL  
INSTITUTE OF RHODE ISLAND**

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

(401) 784-8688

## **ADDRESS**

645 Elmwood Avenue  
Providence, RI 02907

## **East Bay Community Action Program Victim Advocacy**

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Serving the entire East Bay area providing past or current, reported or unreported victims with basic needs support, counseling, criminal justice system navigation, and education to prevent further victimization.



**east bay community  
action program**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### *East Providence*

(401) 437-1000 x130  
100 Bullocks Point Avenue  
Riverside, RI 02915

#### *Newport*

(401) 848-6697  
19 Broadway  
Newport, RI 02840

#### *Tiverton*

(401) 624-4736  
1048 Stafford Road  
Tiverton, RI 02878

## **Family Service of Rhode Island (FSRI)**

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FSRI has many programs supporting Rhode Islanders who have become a victims of crime.



Through partnerships in Providence, East Providence, Central Falls, and with RI State Police Department(s), FSRI clinicians offer evidence-based mental health treatment to help victims of crime of all ages address stress, anxiety, depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and other symptoms of trauma.

Our team also offer emergency assessments and treatment in homes, schools, and at our Providence office specifically for children and youth struggling with trauma exposure.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

(401) 519-2280

### **ADDRESS**

*Outpatient Services Building*  
55 Hope Street  
Providence, RI 02906

[www.familyserviceri.org](http://www.familyserviceri.org)

## **Federal Victim Assistance**

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### **United States Attorney's Office District of Rhode Island**

The FBI investigates federal crimes and the U.S. Attorney's Office prosecutes those crimes. Victims identified in federal cases are offered assistance and support such as:



- Victim identification/notification
- Assessment of immediate, short & long term needs
- Direct victim support to primary or secondary victims
- Reasonable protection
- Notice of court proceedings/case updates
- Return of property/personal effects
- Employer/debt notification
- Case coordination with local/state partners or NGOs
- Education and assistance with federal criminal justice system
- Assistance with resources/referrals
- Notice of Any Post Conviction/Appeal

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

USAO Victim Services

Coordinator  
(401) 709-5023

FBI Victim Specialist  
(401) 278-1451

USAO Witness Coordinator  
(401) 709-5028

Providence FBI Office  
(401) 272-8310

## **Mothers Against Drunk Driving**

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Support, advocacy & referrals  
for anyone impacted by a  
drunk/drugged driving crash  
no matter how long ago it may  
have happened.

Apoyo y referencias para cualquier persona que ha sido herido por personas que han conducido en estado de ebriedad or endrogado. No importa hace cuánto tiempo ocurrió el choque.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Francie Mantak  
(401) 421-0800

24-hour Helpline  
*Línea de Ayuda 24 horas al día*  
877-623-3435

## **Nonviolence Institute Victim Services**

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The Nonviolence Institute offers support services to individuals who have been affected by traumatic and violent acts, with a focus on loved ones of homicide victims.



These services include crisis response, case management, emotional support, treatment referrals for counseling, emergency relocation/housing/rent assistance, advocacy, restorative justice, and more.

Services are designed in collaboration with victims to target issues that arise both immediately and long after a crime or traumatic event has occurred.

Individual home, community, and office-based services are available to all Rhode Islanders and are not time-limited. Monthly support sessions and on-going wellness events are offered, as well as annual Peace Walks and Spa Nights.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

(401) 785-2320 Ext. 311  
265 Oxford Street  
Providence RI 02905

## **Office of the Child Advocate**

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The Office of the Child Advocate (OCA) is an independent state agency responsible for protecting the physical, mental, medical, educational, emotional, and behavioral needs of children involved with the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (RIDCYF).



The OCA assists with completing applications for Victim of Crime Compensation for children who are victims of physical or sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or who have witnessed domestic violence.

Our office accepts calls from anyone who has concerns or questions regarding a child involved with RIDCYF.

Our office is not a first responder. If you know of a child who may be the victim of abuse or neglect, please contact your local police department and the RIDCYF immediately.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

401-462-4300

*Child Abuse Hotline*

1 (800) RI-CHILD

1 (800) 742-4452

# **Progreso Latino**

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## **AYUDAME/HELP ME Domestic Violence Program**

The AYUDAME Domestic Violence Program provides comprehensive, bilingual, bicultural direct services and education to Latino victims of domestic violence, in particular newly arrived immigrants with limited English proficiency.



Services include:

- Education
- Case Management
- Legal Advocacy
- Immigration
- Clinical Services
- Financial Literacy

## **CONTACTS INFORMATION**

Jack Murphy, Case Manager  
(401) 728-5920 ext. 7162

Lisy De La Roca, Assistant Case Manager  
(401) 365-4010 or 728-5920 ext. 314  
Luisa C. Murillo, Dir. of Social Programs  
(401) 728-5920 ext. 346



## **Project Support Ocean State (SOS)**

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Giving hope to families  
struggling with substance  
abuse in Rhode Island. Project

**Project SOS**

SOS is a partnership between Family Service of Rhode Island and Codac Behavioral Healthcare. Project SOS provides family-centered, trauma-focused treatment for children and youth (under 18) living in Cranston, Providence, and Pawtucket when they or a caregiver is directly affected by a substance abuse disorder.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

(401) 519-2280

### **ADDRESS**

*Outpatient Services Building*  
55 Hope Street  
Providence, RI 02906

## **Rhode Island Attorney General's Victim Services Team**

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The RI Attorney General's Victim Advocates are assigned to assist victims through each step of the felony process:

- Investigation
- Bail Hearing
- Violation Hearing
- Grand Jury
- Pre-arraignment
- Pretrial
- Trial
- Sentencing
- Supreme Court
- Post Conviction



### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Providence County  
(401) 274-4400

Juvenile Prosecution  
(401) 274-4400 X 2361

Kent County  
(401) 822-6800

Washington/Newport  
Counties  
(401) 782-4150

## **Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

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The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (RICADV) is an organization dedicated to ending domestic violence. The RICADV was formed in 1979 to support and assist the domestic violence agencies in Rhode Island. The RICADV provides leadership to its member agencies, strives to create justice for victims, and raises awareness on the issue of domestic violence in Rhode Island.



The RICADV's network of member agencies provides a wide array of direct services for victims, including emergency shelter, support groups, counseling services, and assistance with the legal system. For more information about these organizations and services, call the statewide Helpline at 800-494-8100 or visit [www.ricadv.org](http://www.ricadv.org) for more information.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

1-800-494-8100

## **Rhode Island Crime Victim Compensation Program (CVCP)**

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While no amount of money can erase the impact of a violent crime, the CVCP provides up to \$25,000 in reimbursement to Rhode Islanders for expenses related to violent crime, including but not limited to:

- Medical, dental, and counseling expenses
- Relocation expenses
- Funeral and related expenses
- Crime scene cleaning
- Loss of earnings

Applications are available in English and Spanish

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

(401) 462-7655



## **RI's Victim Information and Notification Everyday (RI-VINE)**

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RI's Victim Information and Notification Everyday (RI-VINE) is a free, anonymous, computer assisted telephone service that provides offender custody information and notification of changes in offender custody status. While RI-VINE was created with victim safety in mind, it is available to anyone concerned about the custody of an offender at the Rhode Island ACI.



- You can register by calling (401) 462-5203 or logging onto [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com).
- RI-VINE is available in Spanish and English.
- Any information you provide to us in connection with your request for notification is held strictly confidential.
- To locate an offender that is being held at the ACI, call the RI-VINE hotline directly from a touch-tone phone or log onto [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com).

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

(401) 462-5203

## **Saint Elizabeth Haven for Elder Justice**

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Saint Elizabeth Haven for Elder Justice is a program within Saint Elizabeth Community that provides direct services to elder victims of abuse, age 60 and older.



Saint Elizabeth Community  
*Where RI seniors come first*

Services include providing a safe, temporary shelter (based on bed availability) for victims of elder abuse. While in shelter, elders work with an Elder Justice Advocate for safe return to the community and/or to navigate their way through the criminal justice system.

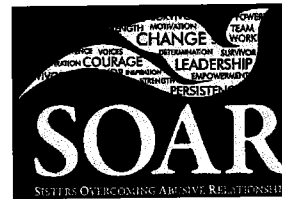
Our community-based program offers specialized case management, safety planning and legal advocacy for elder victims of abuse who remain at home or in the community.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

(401) 244-5476 or  
(401) 244-5539

# **Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships**

Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships (SOAR) is a nationally recognized task force of the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence made up of survivors of domestic violence. Formed in 1989, SOAR is the only group in Rhode Island specifically working on systems change that consists entirely of survivors, and is a leader among similar groups in the nation. SOAR's mission is to promote, advocate for, and work towards the elimination of domestic violence and to embody and give visibility to the voices of abused women.



## *Real women.*

SOAR members are survivors and members of our communities.

## *Real stories.*

SOAR members use their voices for change.

## *Breaking the silence.*

SOAR members raise awareness to end domestic violence.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

401-467-9940 x118

Elissa@ricadv.org

## **Sojourner House**

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Immediate, 24/7/365 assistance for individuals in abusive relationships. We offer support groups, emergency shelter, transitional housing, sexual health advocacy, emotional support, referrals to over 50 other community partners providing additional assistance.



If you are being abused or think you might be in danger of being abused and would like to speak to someone who can help, call us at (401) 765-3232. Evening calls will be automatically transferred to the statewide helpline. All calls are confidential.

Sojourner House Drop In Center  
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Phone: (401) 861-6191



## **St. Mary's Shepherd Program**

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St. Mary's Shepherd Program offers a variety of programs and clinical groups for children, adults, and families impacted by sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and other trauma, such as family violence and physical abuse through a myriad of programs. Services are provided in the office, home, and community.



The Shepherd Program utilizes a variety of treatments recognized as best practices, as well as evidence-informed therapy for trauma treatment.

In collaboration with Faith Hill Farm in East Greenwich, the Shepherd Program also offers Equine Assisted Psychotherapy as a trauma-specific outpatient treatment.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Melissa Quinn-Roy, LICSW, Intake Coordinator  
(401) 353-3900 ext. 416  
[www.smhfc.org](http://www.smhfc.org)

# **Tri-County Community Action Agency**

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## **D/deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Victim of Crime Advocacy Program**

- Serves victims/survivors of crime of all ages
- Victims/Survivors will be able to communicate with the advocates through videophone (VP) and email
- Deaf Advocates are culturally and linguistically competent and fluent in ASL and Tactile
- Our advocacy services will help D/deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind individuals with all phases of the criminal justice system and also help victims find the appropriate aftercare services



Tri-County  
Community Action Agency  
*Helping People. Changing Lives.*

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Bonnie Kaplan VP: (401) 406-3356

Aimee Slezak VP: (401) 441-6325

# Cybercrime Support Network

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Cybercrime and online fraud can happen to anyone. That's why United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island partnered with the Cybercrime Support Network. Using FraudSupport.org, a National Cybercrime Victim Resource Database, 2-1-1 makes sure that Rhode Islanders have the resources they need while guiding them through the process of reporting, recovering, and reinforcing their security following a cybercrime.



- If you have been victimized through:
  - Identity theft
  - Imposter scams
  - Hacked accounts and devices
  - Financial and purchase scams
  - Cyberbullying, harassment, or stalking

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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[www.fraudsupport.org](http://www.fraudsupport.org)

This guide was created in partnership with the Rhode Island Crime Victim Service Provider Steering Committee and Family Service of Rhode Island. Funding for this project was received from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, in an effort to honor National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

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