

National Support Groups/Resources

(In-person and virtual support services)

211 <https://www.211.org/>

211 is a free, confidential hotline linking 200 emergency services, local and nationwide, with callers in need around the clock.

Alliance for Hope International <https://www.familyjusticecenter.org/georgia-domestic-violence-fatality-review-project-2015/>

Alliance for Hope International offers resources, training, and current information on the impact of familicide on children and families.

American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (AAMFT) <https://aamft.org/>

The AAMFT is a professional association of marriage and family therapists across the United States, Canada, and abroad. They help with locating a family therapist by location. All members must abide by the standards established by the AAMFT code of ethics. (Phone: 703-838-9808)

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) <https://afsp.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AFSPnational>

Established in 1987, the AFSP is a voluntary health organization that gives suicide survivors a nationwide community empowered by research, education, and advocacy to act against a leading cause of death. (Phone: 888-333-2377)

Befrienders Worldwide <https://www.befrienders.org>

Befrienders Worldwide is an international volunteer-staffed suicide-prevention resource. It provides confidential support and refers people in crisis to hotlines around the world in various languages (Phone in the United States: 800-893-9900; in Canada: 212-673-3000; in the UK: 116 123)

Canadian Parents of Murdered Children (CPOMC) <http://canadianpomc.ca/resources/the-impact-of-murder-on-the-family-unit/health-and-social-issues-following-the-murder-of-a-loved-one/>

CPOMC is a homicide victim group based in Canada. This site offers resources, information, and tips on coping with a homicide in the family.

Citizens Against Homicide <http://citizensagainsthomicide.org/>

Citizens Against Homicide is a nonprofit group formed to aid homicide survivors in coping with the criminal-justice system. This group has partnered with “Crime Wire Blog Talk radio” www.blogtalkradio.com/insidelenz as a resource to highlight homicides, suspicious deaths, and missing-person cases where foul play is suspected. (Phone: 415-308-9413 or 209-728-2873)

Compassionate Friends <https://www.compassionatefriends.org/>

Compassionate Friends is a volunteer organization that provides emotional support to families experiencing the natural, accidental, or violent deaths of relatives or close friends through their grief experience. Currently, 600+ chapters serve all fifty states, U.S. territories, and 30 countries. Some provide in-person meetings, whereas others are virtual. (Phone: 1-877-969-0010)

Data-Smart City Solutions <https://datasmart.ash.harvard.edu/news/article/map-monday-unsolved-homicides>

Data Smart City Solutions (via Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government) has mapped arrests for murder and unsolved murder cases in 50 of the largest U.S. cities. It reveals areas where criminal homicides remain unsolved and if an arrest was made between 2007–2017.

Deaf Counseling Center <https://deafcounseling.com/deaf-emergency-services/>

The Deaf Counseling Center is best used following a call to 911. The center can help with follow-up services in mental health for the deaf and hard of hearing. They are available 24/7 for anyone in a mental health crisis. Text HOME to 741741 in the United States.

Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC) <https://deathpenaltyinfo.org>

This report examines the historical role race has played in the death-penalty process and why the death penalty must be included in meaningful discussions of criminal legal reform.

Dougy Center <https://www.dougy.org>

The Dougy Center offers support and assistance for children and teens dealing with grief. It also assists with finding local resources outside Portland, Oregon. English and Spanish are spoken.
(Phone 503-775-5683)

Esperanza United

https://www.nationallatinonetwork.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=692:key-issues-implications&catid=202:special-collections

Esperanza United is a national referral resource, in English and Spanish, that offers help with court services, domestic violence, rape, other traumas, low-income legal relief, and assistance to youth.
(Phone 651-646-5553)

GEDmatch <https://www.gedmatch.com/>

GEDmatch is a third-party database where anyone can upload their raw DNA and use their tools to match with others for different purposes: genealogy, research, missing persons, or law enforcement.

Georgia Commission on Family Violence <file:///C:/Users/drlew/Downloads/Support-For-Survivors-of-Murder-Suicide-Brochure.pdf>

The Georgia Commission has designed a booklet specifically to support the survivors of domestic violence murder-suicide. (Phone: 404-657-3412)

Grief and Loss Resources, American Counseling Association (NAGC)

<https://www.counseling.org/knowledge-center/mental-health-resources>

NAGC is a nonprofit organization that offers resources for professional counselors and the public. It aims to assist with access to qualified professional counselors. (Phone: 800-347-6647)

Grief Share <https://griefshare.org>

Grief Share connects people to local Grief Share self-help groups throughout the United States, Canada, and 10 other countries. It's affiliated with Church Initiative. Email contact: help@dougy.org
(Phone: 800-395-5755)

iCAN <https://www.ican-foundation.org/parole-hearings/>

iCAN is a nonprofit organization in the state of California that supports homicide victims through the parole hearing process. (Phone: 916-273-3603)

Justice for Homicide Victims (JHV) <https://justiceforhomicidevictims.org/>

JHV is a nonprofit, volunteer-led organization based in Los Angeles that provides support in dealing with homicide and coping with a complex legal system and law enforcement officials. It also provides counseling and referrals to appropriate agencies set up by the state and county to give various forms of assistance, including financial assistance as warranted. JHV also assists in gathering data for parole hearings.

Justice Resource Institute (JRI) <https://jri.org/podcasts/trot-uses-equine-therapy-treat-traumatized-children>

JRI sponsors the Trot On equine-assisted therapy program at Furnace Brook Farm in Marshfield, Massachusetts. It specializes in services for traumatized or abused children with complex traumas. (Phone 781-559-4900)

Homicide Survivors, Inc. <https://homicidesurvivorsinc.org>

Homicide Survivors, Inc. is based in Tucson, Arizona. They provide free peer support in English and Spanish and assist in obtaining other resources. (Phone: 520-207-5012)

Homicide Survivors Program (HSP) <https://hsdv.org>

The Homicide Survivors Program for Families and Friends of Murder Victims supports families and friends who have lost someone to murder or vehicular homicide. Its mission is to provide practical intervention and support, victim advocacy, and assist survivors in navigating the criminal-justice system. (Phone: 256-551-1610)

Job Accommodation Network (JAN) <https://askjan.org/index.cfm>

JAN (funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability) is a resource for free, expert, and confidential guidance on job accommodations and disability employment issues nationally and internationally. (Phone: 800-526-7234)

Justice for Murdered Children <http://justiceformurderedchildren.org>

Justice for Murdered Children aims to reduce the number of homicides and unsolved homicides and assist through legal advocacy families who have lost loved ones to homicide (providing additional eyes and ears for law enforcement) through monthly support group meetings for families of murder victims. (Phone: 310-547-5362)

Marsy's Law <https://marsyslaw.us>

Marsy's Law is an effort to ensure that victims of crime have equal, constitutional rights on the same level as those accused and convicted of crimes.

Massachusetts Office on Disability's 50 States Disability Resource Guide

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/50-states-disability-resource-guide/download>

This resource offers program descriptions for supplemental income and disability determination for every state in the United States, organized alphabetically with contact information.

Mediation Matters: Restorative Justice <http://www.mediationmatters.org>

Mediation Matters is a voluntary, private, and confidential service that engages the offender, the person harmed, and the community to cooperatively identify and repair damage by transforming the traditional punitive response. (Phone: 518 446-0356)

Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights (MVFHR) <http://www.mvfhr.org/>

MVFHR is an international, nongovernmental organization of homicide co-victims and family members of the executed, all of whom oppose the death penalty.

Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation (MVFR) <https://www.guidestar.org/profile>

MVFR is a national organization led by family members of murder victims and the executed who advocate for disrupting and dismantling the death penalty.

National Alliance for Grieving Children www.childrengrieve.org

The National Alliance for Grieving Children offers resources to help support children through grief. The site has a national listing of child-bereavement organizations.

National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC) <https://victimsofcrime.org>

NCVC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing resources and advocacy for crime victims.
(Phone: 800-394-2255)

National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) <https://www.nctsn.org/>

The NCTSN's mission is to raise the standard of care and improve access to services for traumatized children, their families, and communities throughout the United States. They have offices in Los Angeles (Phone: 310-235-2633) and in North Carolina (Phone: 919-682-1552.)

National Deaf Domestic Violence Hotline ADWAS

The Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services empowers deaf and deaf/blind survivors of domestic violence, assault, and related crimes to transform their lives. It provides comprehensive services to individuals and families, community education, and advocacy on systems and policy issues. It also offers voice/video phone call communication at 855-812-1001

National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative (NDVFRI) <https://ndvfri.org/about/>

The NDFVRI is a one-of-a-kind resource center dedicated to domestic violence fatality review. The interdisciplinary team goes on-site to review the fatalities from domestic violence, acts as a clearinghouse for information about developments in the field, and collaborates with project partners.

National Domestic Violence Hotline <https://www.thehotline.org/what-to-expect-when-you-contact-us/>

The National Domestic Violence Hotline provides tools, support, and referral services for survivors of domestic violence in 200+languages. Services are free.
(Phone: 1-800-799-7233 or text "START" to 88788)

National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) <https://www.trynova.org>

NOVA is the oldest national victim-assistance organization of its type in the United States. NOVA is a private, nonprofit organization that focuses on victim advocacy, education, and credentialing of professionals. It provides general victim information and local and state referrals, including 24/7 crisis support through its partnerships. (Phone: 1-800-879-6682)

National Police Accountability Project (NPAP) <https://www.nlg-npap.org/absolute-immunity/>

The National Police Accountability Project is a project of the National Lawyers Guild, a nonprofit membership organization of plaintiffs' lawyers, law students, and legal workers dedicated to ending abuses by prosecutors.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a U.S.-based suicide prevention network of over 180 crisis centers that combine local and national standards and best practices to assist those in distress. It provides free and confidential support 24/7. (Phone: 1-800-273-8255; veterans press 1 to connect with a veteran specialist). By August 2022, a three-digit code of 988 can be used to route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

NOLO: Home Funeral Laws: An Overview <https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/home-funeral-laws.html>

NOLO provides state-by-state summaries of the laws governing home funerals. Home funerals are legal in all 50 states.

Omega Home Stigmatized Properties: Examples and Laws

<https://www.omegahome.com/blog/stigmatized-property/>

Omega Home Stigmatized Properties explains what a stigmatized property is and the laws regarding such in all 50 states (current at the time of publication).

Parents of Murdered Children: (POMC) <https://pomc.org/>

POMC is a national volunteer organization that provides emotional support, education, homicide-survivor advocacy, and awareness to the parents of murdered children. It also helps with the criminal-justice system. Despite its name, it will assist adults in finding resources for coping with the homicide of an adult. (Phone: 888-627-7066)

Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) <https://www.patientadvocate.org/explore-our-resources/preserving-income-federal-benefits/comparison-of-federal-vs-state-vs-private-disability-benefits/>

The Patient Advocate Foundation offers information on disability options for employees unable to return to work and finding assistance for people who have never worked and who are unable to work because of a disability. This website offers a comparison between federal versus state versus private disability benefits. (Phone: 800-532-5274)

Safe Horizon <https://www.safehorizon.org/hotlines>

Safe Horizon offers help to callers who are victims of crime, including support for family members of homicide victims. (Phone: 1-866-689-HELP; Help for the hearing impaired: 1-866-604-5350)

Second Opinion Services (S.O.S.) <https://pomc.org/second-opinion/>

S.O.S. is staffed by a volunteer board of medical, law enforcement, and investigative experts who provide independent, objective viewpoints based on existing evidence and/or records submitted to them for review. These experts evaluate materials, look for evidence that needs follow-up, review findings that may have been misinterpreted, suggest areas for further investigation, and highlight inconsistencies and conflicting information. (They won't further investigate the case, serve as expert witnesses, or identify suspects.) The cost is \$100.

Social Security Disability (SSI) <https://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/>

SSI has an online disability application for adults who aren't currently receiving benefits on their own Social Security record, are unable to work due to a physical or psychological condition for at least the next 12 months, and have not been denied disability benefits in the last 60 days. Applicants filing for SSI may also check the status of their application online. (Phone: 800-772-1213).

Survivors' benefits may be available when a family member dies. To enquire about "death benefits," call 1-800-772-1213 8 a.m.–7 p.m., Monday–Friday.

Southeast Center Disability Rights and Public Accommodations: State-by-State

https://adasoutheast.org/publications/ada/public_accommodations_disability_rights_state-by-state_Final.pdf

The Southeast Center explains disability-rights laws that complement the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for every state in the southeast region of the United States. They differ in terms of who is protected or what entities are required to comply as well as prohibitions. (Phone: 800-949-4232)

Stronghearts Native Helpline <https://strongheartshelpline.org/>

Stronghearts is an American Indian and Alaskan Native hotline offering culturally appropriate support and advocacy for domestic violence and mental health referrals. (Phone: 1-844-7NATIVE) (844-762-8483)

Survivors of Violent Loss Network www.svlp.org

Survivors of (Violent) Loss Resources is an online website that offers support to homicide and suicide survivors. This national resource provides information, resources, and opportunities for networking with others. Programs differ in different states. It supports families who have lost a loved one to violent death and training for those who work with them. (Phone: 619-685-0005.)

Survivor Resources <https://survivorresources.org/>

Survivor Resources provides immediate and long-term grief support for family and friends impacted by homicide, suicide, or accidental death. It's a nonprofit organization coordinated through the Minneapolis and St. Paul Police Departments. (Phone: 651-266-5674)

The American Investigative Society of Cold Cases (AISOCC) <http://www.aisocc.com/>

AISOCC offers free, professional, nonbiased reviews of any cold case brought to them by law enforcement. They have an elite group of experts who assist in solving cold cases. In addition, they hold annual conferences on topics of interest to cold-case investigators.

The Dougy Center www.dougy.org

This national facility is in Portland, Oregon, and assists bereaved minors where a family member has died or is expected to die soon. All programs are free. They also offer support in Spanish. (Phone: 503-775-5683) In addition, they host a podcast entitled *Grief Out Loud*.

The National Crime Victim Bar Association <https://victimbar.org/attorney-referral-request-form/>

The National Crime Victim Bar Association has a nationwide network of attorneys dedicated to helping the victims of crime rebuild their lives through the Civil Justice System.

VictimConnect <http://victimconnect.org/get-help/victimconnect-chat>

VictimConnect provides confidential “chat sessions” with trained victim-aid specialists for people in crisis who are in a physically safe environment Monday to Friday from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. EDT. (Phone or text: 855-484-2846)

Violent Death Bereavement Society <http://www.vdbs.org/>

The Violent Death Bereavement Society serves as a centralized forum for information and training for the service providers of loved ones and relatives after violent death. It sponsors lectures and workshops for providers and family members, plans community-based support services, and offers a national registry of experienced clinicians, service providers, and regional experts for consultation.

Winston’s Wish <https://www.winstonswish.org>

Based in the United Kingdom, this program supports bereaved children and their families and the professionals who support them. It offers a free helpline, support for schools, and three-day bereavement training courses for professionals.

World Services for the Blind (WSB) <https://www.wsblind.org/about>

World Services for the Blind has a mission to empower the blind and visually impaired with trauma-based referrals, career training programs, life skills, and programs for transitional-aged youths.