



OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES
Focusing on a brighter future



Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

CONNECTICUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, there are **CONFIDENTIAL**, **SAFE**, and **FREE** services available throughout Connecticut 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. This document, developed jointly by the **Connecticut Judicial Branch, Office of Victim Services (OVS)** and the **Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV)**, explains some of the available resources across the state.

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that may include emotional or psychological abuse, stalking and harassment, physical abuse, sexual abuse, technological abuse, and/or financial abuse. Abusers use a variety of methods to control, intimidate, and isolate their victims (see box). Victims are left feeling scared, confused, dependent, and insecure about their ability to survive on their own, financially or otherwise. The children of an abused parent must contend with these same fears and realities.

Available Services for Survivors

Domestic Violence Services

CCADV has 18 member domestic violence organizations that provide **CONFIDENTIAL**, **SAFE**, and **FREE** services throughout the state. Some of these services include:

- Safety planning – safety looks different for everyone and domestic violence advocates will help you think through the pros and cons of different options
- One-on-one counseling
- Support groups
- Emergency shelter and other housing options
- Criminal and civil court advocacy – domestic violence advocates can explain the court process, offer you guidance on getting available protections, such as a restraining order, and support you throughout the process
- Information and connections to other community-based resources such as SNAP, TANF, transportation, rental assistance, legal assistance, etc.

To learn more, visit www.ctcadv.org or www.CTSafeConnect.org

Compensation for Crime Victims

The OVS Victim Compensation Program offers **financial help** to:

- Victims of a physical injury, including victims of domestic violence and their family members,
- Victims of an emotional injury from a direct threat of either physical injury or death who received treatment or
- A child who witnessed domestic violence, including children not related to the victim or other persons who have experienced certain financial loss because of a crime.

SIGNS OF AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

Stalking and harassment, such as constantly checking up on you or showing up at your home or job uninvited

Economic control, such as not giving you access to money or running up debt in your name

Physical violence, such as pushing, hitting, or slapping you

Being overly jealous about your relationships with others and preventing you from seeing family or friends

Disrespecting you or calling you names in front of others

Controlling your means of communication, such as your phone or computer, including checking your phone without your permission

Threatening you, your children, your family, or your pets

Forcing you to have sex or do sexual acts when you do not want to

If you are a victim of domestic violence and told a certified domestic violence or a certified sexual assault counselor (for example, an advocate at one of CCADV's 18 domestic violence organizations) about the crime or if a judge gave you a restraining order or a civil protection order after a hearing, you may be eligible.

Only expenses and losses related to the crime that are not covered by insurance or other financial sources will be considered. Some examples of covered expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Medical, dental, counseling, and prescription expenses
- Counseling for relatives of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse victims
- Lost wages because of crime-related injuries or care to a victim
- Lost wages or travel expenses for you and your relatives to attend court, juvenile, and Board of Pardons and Parole proceedings.

To review a complete list of program eligibility requirements and explanation of coverage, visit www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim/compensation.htm. OVS offers a series of videos explaining the victim compensation process, as well as a section of frequently asked questions.

To receive an application, call the Victim Compensation Program at (888) 286-7347, email at OVSCompensation@jud.ct.gov or visit www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim.

Safe At Home (Address Confidentiality Program)

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP), which is administered by the Connecticut Office of the Secretary of the State, helps victims of domestic violence, among others, keep their new address confidential. The ACP offers its participants two services designed to help keep the victim's new location secret. First is the participant's use of an ACP substitute mailing address and cost-free mail forwarding services. The second part of the program prevents public access to a participant's actual address on government records including voter registry lists and keeps marriage records confidential. Applications for the program are completed by domestic violence or sexual assault counselors.

To apply, please contact Safe Connect (see below).

How Can I Access Services?

Domestic violence services in Connecticut are accessed through a single point of entry known as Safe Connect. Safe Connect is a project of CCADV that strengthens access to safety for survivors of domestic violence by creating a comprehensive, coordinated, statewide response. Safe Connect's certified domestic violence advocates provide survivors with extensive information, safety planning, counseling, and case management, as well as referrals to one of CCADV's 18 member organizations and other available community-based resources, such as medical care, mental health services, and legal assistance.



CTSafeConnect

Safe Connect offers **CONFIDENTIAL**, **SAFE**, and **FREE** services to survivors of domestic violence **24 hours per day, 365 days per year**. Your safety is CCADV's priority. If you or someone you know needs help, you can...



CALL / TEXT



CHAT



EMAIL

CALL or TEXT 888.774.2900

CHAT or EMAIL available at www.CTSafeConnect.org



Prepared in accordance with Public Act 19-146. For more information, please contact:

Office of Victim Services
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