

## Advocacy, Referral, and Other Services (Continued):

### Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance (MOVA)

[1.844.878.MOVA \(6682\)](tel:1844878MOVA) | [askmova.org](http://askmova.org)

Provides free of charge victim services, counseling, advocacy, and referrals.

### Survivor to Survivor Program

[Louis D. Brown Peace Institute](#) | [617.825.1917](tel:6178251917)

Provides services for survivors of homicide victims.

### Victim Compensation, Office of the Attorney General

[617.727.2200 \(Ext. 2160\)](tel:6177272200)

Provides financial compensation for qualified victims or family members of violent crime.

### Victim Witness Assistance Program

[Suffolk County District Attorney's Office](#) | [617.619.4000](tel:6176194000)

Provides crisis intervention, supportive counseling, court advocacy, and safety planning for victims, witnesses, and their families.

### Violence Intervention Advocacy Program at BMC

[617.414.4454](tel:6174144454)

Provides crisis intervention, stabilization, and case management for victims of gunshot and stab wounds, as well as comprehensive family assessment and support services.

# Community Violence Response Team (CVRT)

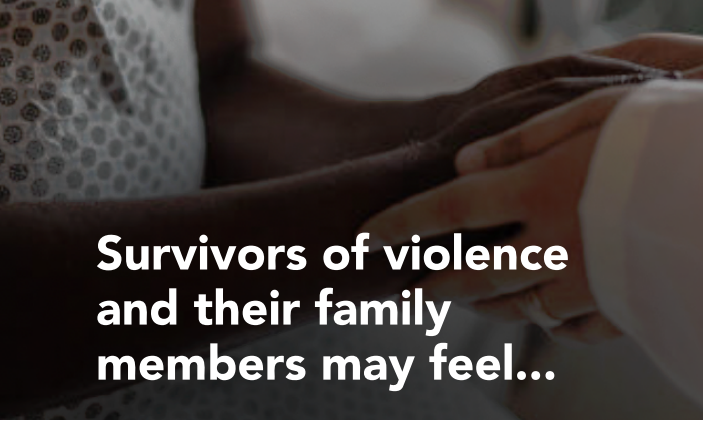
Support Services for those impacted by community violence.

*This project is supported by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA) through a VOCA Victim Assistance grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.*

BOSTON  
MEDICAL  
CENTER



BOSTON  
MEDICAL  
CENTER



## Survivors of violence and their family members may feel...

- Shocked, angry, or afraid
- Guilty because you could not prevent the violent act
- Initial thoughts of retaliation
- Embarrassed to share your feelings about the incident with your family, friends, or loved ones

## Other changes and emotions you may notice include:

- Recurrent or intrusive thoughts about the event
- Nightmares
- Flashbacks
- Physical and emotional signs of stress when reminded of the event
- Avoiding people, places, or things
- Feeling numb or detached
- Avoiding thoughts, feelings, or conversations associated with trauma
- Change in eating and sleeping patterns
- Poor peer relations
- Anger
- Hopelessness/ helplessness
- Loss of control or powerlessness
- Difficulty concentrating
- Mood swings
- Depression
- Anxiety

## Helpful tips for coping with the event:

- Talk about your experience with someone you trust
- Mobilize resources – friends, teachers, coaches, siblings, and other supportive family members
- Identify a contact person who can provide information to friends and family so that you don't have to update and repeat information multiple times throughout the day
- Engage in activities that bring you joy and a sense of calm (i.e. exercise, listening to music, going for a walk.)

## For family members:

- Take care of yourselves—eat healthy, drink plenty of fluids, and try to get some rest
- Listen—let your loved one vent without trying to have answers for everything
- Validate the event and your loved one's feelings about it

## Advocacy, Referral, and Other Services:

### **Boston Medical Center's Community Violence Response Team** **617.414.8030**

CVRT clinicians are dedicated to providing individual and family counseling to survivors of violence and family members who have been impacted by violence. In addition, we have case management and family advocacy services to provide additional support and assistance. All services are non insurance based and are free to clients and their families.

### **Boston Medical Center Child Witness to Violence Program** **617.414.4244**

A counseling, advocacy, and outreach project that focuses on the growing number of young children who are hidden victims of violence; children who are bystanders to community and domestic violence.

### **Boston Medical Center Domestic Violence Program** **617.414.5457**

Provides advocacy and referrals for victims of domestic and/or sexual violence.