

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Resources **Available**

As “social distancing” is encouraged we understand that domestic and/or sexual violence might increase in the home. Individuals may be isolated with an abusive partner or household member, be in fear and unable to access critical services for safety and support. As a result of the guidance issued by the Governor and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) there have been temporary shifts to many services to minimize the risk of virus transmission. This document offers information about available resources in and around Somerville for at risk individuals and families who are in need of support due to domestic violence, sexual violence, family violence, and partner abuse.

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES

Individuals experiencing domestic violence, seeking resources or information, or questioning unhealthy aspects of their relationship that wish to access free, confidential, 24-7 support can call Safelink or the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

Safelink: Massachusetts' statewide 24/7 toll-free, multi-lingual domestic violence hotline and a resource for anyone affected by domestic violence can be accessed by calling **(877) 785-2020**.

National Domestic Violence Hotline: Advocates are available 24/7 at **1-800-799-SAFE (7233)** in more than 200 languages. All calls are free and confidential.

Transition House

24/7 Hotline (617) 661-7203

<https://www.transitionhouse.org>

DV Program providing services to individuals and families in Cambridge.

- 24/7 Hotline Advocates are available to provide support and help to safety plan. If services beyond crisis support are needed, hotline advocates will refer to the Community Team. All new referrals must go thru the hotline advocates
- Community Team available to provide support during regular business hours (M-F 9a-5p). The office is closed to the public. Staff is providing counseling and advocacy to current clients remotely via teleconference.
- Emergency shelter at capacity.

RESPOND Inc.

(617) 623-5900

www.respondinc.org

DV Program providing services to individuals/families in Somerville-Malden Area.

- Staff will continue to provide 1-1 support, counseling and emergency assistance to community based clients via telephone, web-based product (Zoom) and in person (on a limited basis).
- Survivors should contact RESPOND's hotline for intakes and to discuss options.

Asian Task Force (A-TASK)

24/7 Hotline (617) 338-2355

www.atask.org

Domestic violence support for pan-Asian survivors in New England.

- Main Offices in Boston and Lowell are closed and all advocates are working remotely.
- New referral process: call the hotline and the advocate will continue the intake process as normal via phone.
- Past/Current clients can call to speak with their advocate/case manager directly or call the hotline.

Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS)

(617) 864-7600

MAPS-inc.org

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault advocates provide crisis intervention, safety planning, & advocacy.

- MAPS is open and providing all services remotely M-F 9:00AM-5:00PM.
- Click links below for information about COVID-19 and additional resources
- English: <https://www.maps-inc.org/coronavirus/>
- Portuguese: <https://www.maps-inc.org/pt-pt/coronavirus/>

Saheli Inc.

Helpline: (866) 472-4354

www.saheliboston.org

Provides free/confidential services to address challenges faced by South Asian Immigrants in Mass

- Saheli's office is now open for emergency services.
- Clients and other agencies can call the 24 hour helpline (866) 472-4354 or email info@saheliboston.org and an advocate will reach out to assist the client/agency. Please have the clients specify times when it will be safe to contact them.

- Clients can also access counseling with Saheli via phone call after the intake process is completed

Riverside Community Care

<https://www.riversidecc.org>

Provides free and confidential services to families in Cambridge, Somerville, and other surrounding communities. All of Riverside's Programs remain in operation with many offering services virtually. You can call the program directly (numbers on website or below) or contact 781-329-0909 or info@riversidecc.org.

- **Children with Voices:** Child Witness to Violence Program (617) 284-5141
- **The Meeting Place:** Supervised Child Access Service (617) 354-2275

SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESOURCES

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC)

24/7 Hotline 1-800-841-8371

barcc.org

Offers free, confidential services to sexual assault survivors 12+ and their families.

- **Counseling, Legal Advocacy, and Case Management:** Survivors currently receiving services will continue receiving services remotely, either online or by phone.
 - **New Referrals:** Survivors who are looking to begin services should submit a request online: barcc.org/help/make-appointment or by phone at (617) 492-8306, and the service access team will explore individual needs with the survivor.
 - **Hotline:** Running as usual! Survivors or professionals can still reach the hotline for support by phone/consultation 24/7 at (800) 841-8371 and online 9:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m. at barcc.org/chat.
 - **Medical Advocacy:** In consultation with the Department of Public Health, hospital accompaniment services are suspended until further notice. Survivors at the hospital will have the opportunity to connect with an advocate over the phone. For survivors with questions about the sexual assault exam and evidence collection, contact the hotline or visit surviverape.org/ for more information, and reach out to the Forensic Information Line at (866) 463-3799 (Mondays, 3:00–5:00 p.m., and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon; if you leave a message, they will call you back within two business days.)
 - **Incarcerated Survivor Support:** The hotline for incarcerated survivors is still available seven days a week.
- All of this information, as well as any updates, will be made available on BARCC's website as soon as possible in English and Spanish at barcc.org/serviceupdate**

Massachusetts Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program

- Mass SANE is continuing to provide trauma-informed care for sexual assault survivors 24/7 by expert SANE clinicians at designated SANE hospitals.
- Locally, SANE designated hospitals include: Beth Israel Deaconess, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston Medical Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Cambridge Hospital, Mass General Hospital, and Newton-Wellesley Hospital.
- Patients may choose to receive medical care for injuries, medications to prevent sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy and HIV infection, and have access to rape crisis services.
- If the assault occurred within 5 days patients may choose to have a medical forensic exam and forensic evidence collection.
- For more information and where to access care: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/sane-resources-for-family-members-and-friends>

Sexual Assault Response Unit (SARU) at the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC)

SARU Business Line: (617) 727-6465

DPPC 24/7 Hotline to report abuse or neglect: (800) 426-9009

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/disabled-persons-protection-commission>

Provides services and support to survivors with disabilities who have experienced sexual violence.

- The Sexual Assault Response Unit is fully operating to provide emotional support, crisis intervention, case management and advocacy, as well consultation to staff and providers that may be supporting survivors.
- Referrals to the SARU come directly from reports made to DPPC. Referrals also come from other community services or survivors themselves. To make a referral to the SAR Unit call: (617) 727-6465
- Regional Navigators are advocates that provide support and someone for survivors with disabilities to talk to. They cannot meet in person right now, but can help over phone, FaceTime, or a Zoom call.

POLICE & RESTRAINING ORDER/HARASSMENT PREVENTION ORDER ASSISTANCE

Somerville Police Department Family Services Unit

For all emergencies dial 911

Non emergencies dial (617) 625-1600

Victim Advocate: Call 617-625-1600 x7279 or Call/Text (857) 270-8744

Email: mdipaolo@police.somerville.ma.us

- Victim advocate and/or detectives will continue to follow up via phone on domestic violence, domestic dispute, and sexual assault reports to help address safety concerns, provide information about protective orders, identify and assist survivor's access available services. In-person response, including interviewing to be conducted by detectives on a discretionary basis.
- Victim advocate is available by phone M-F 8AM-4PM to discuss options, provide support, and safety plan with residents experiencing domestic and/or sexual violence. Can also provide assistance and guidance for 209A and 258E applications and hearings.

Massachusetts Trial Court/Middlesex District Attorney's Office/Somerville District Court

Middlesex District Attorney's Office: (781) 897-8300

<https://www.middlesexda.com>

Somerville District Court Clerk's Office: (617) 666-8000

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/executive-office-of-the-trial-court>

From Middlesex DA's Office:

- The SJC issued an order limiting in-person proceedings in MA state courthouses. During this time, physical locations are closed and the staff of the MDAO will be working remotely. Assistant District Attorneys and Victim Witness Advocates will continue to conduct follow-ups with victims via phone for any new arraignments.
- For questions call (781) 897-8300. Staff will be answering calls during regular business hours, and voicemails left on this line will be checked and calls will be returned.
- Victims and witnesses in upcoming cases should be advised that the Somerville District Court has suspended all jury trials. Bench trials are being conducted on a limited basis.
- As of April 2, 2020, the MA Trial Court will be operating a Help-Line. **833-91COURT will be answered Monday-Friday from 8:30 to 4:30 by staff with access to MassCourts.**
- All MA courts will now have email addresses for people to request information from. Visit <https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-department-emails#-district-court-> for a list of all court email addresses.
- As of April 23, 2020, the Middlesex District Attorney's Office launched a dedicated texting line for victims to speak directly with a victim witness advocate. **Victims can now reach an advocate during regular office hours (8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) via text message at (781) 281-4066.** The line is not monitored 24/7 and is NOT an emergency line.

From the Somerville District Court:

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/executive-office-of-the-trial-court>

- As of April 2, 2020, the Somerville District Court can now be reached at cmsomervilledc@jud.state.ma.us as an alternative form for people seeking information.
- During Court hours (M-F 8:30-4), new applicants contact the Somerville District Court and the Clerk will walk them through the process and contact the Judge on their behalf. Occasionally, walk in applications are accepted. Please call the Clerk's Office for daily in person availability.
- After Court hours (Emergency Orders), applicants can fill out PDF paperwork and submit virtually if they have a safe space and capabilities to do so. If they do not have the capacity, an officer may assist and indicate the affidavit was filled out by them at the direction of applicant.
- FAQs can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/guides/district-court-faqs-related-to-covid-19>

Middlesex Probate and Family Court

(617) 768-5800

<https://www.mass.gov/locations/middlesex-probate-and-family-court>

- The Middlesex Probate and Family Court will remain open for in person emergency matters that cannot be resolved over the phone or tele-conference.
- For more information about the updated protocol as of March 31st, 2020 for what is considered emergency and non-emergency matters please visit their website: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/middlesex-probate-and-family-court-guidelines-for-operation-during-covid-19/download>
- Registry is open to receive pleadings and other filings by first class mail and by E-filing.
- The Registry and the Court is staffed to receive, review, and, as appropriate schedule and hear emergency and non-emergency hearings. The court will be operating on limited staff. Staff on site is responsible for monitoring phone calls and emails.
- **A phone number and email have been designated for emergency filing and emergency hearing situations: (617) 768- 5906 or middlesexprobate@jud.state.ma.us**
- For FAQ related to COVID-19 please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/probate-and-family-court-faqs-related-to-covid-19>

SERVICES FOR HOMELESS WOMEN

On the Rise

(617) 497-7968

<http://www.ontherise.org>

Day program offering support and services to homeless women in the Cambridge area.

Safe Haven is open M-F 9-1 with restricted access inside the building for certain resources.

• Doors will open 9am - 1pm, Monday - Friday with restricted access to the Safe Haven. We are offering 30 minute shifts inside the house to those who may need to access resources such as food, the bathroom, a computer, a phone, etc. We will continue to distribute mail and other items at the door.

• **KEEP THE KEYS for housed program participants:** All groups, events and outings have been suspended until further notice. Advocates are available to offer phone support and advocacy.

Please call (617) 497-7968 if you would like to speak to an advocate.

Rosie's Place: 889 Harrison Ave, Boston, MA

(617) 442-9322

<https://www.rosiesplace.org>

Day program and overnight shelter offering services for homeless women in Boston area.

• As of 3/17/2020, Rosie's Place will remain open while incorporating social distancing throughout each service. Additionally, multiple portable hand washing stations have been installed throughout the building to encourage hand hygiene. Each guest is asked to wash as they enter our building, before and after meals, and as they leave.

• **Emergency Programs:** The showers, phones, computers, laundry, and sitting room are open daily for homeless women. See website for details.

• **Dining Room:** M-F 7:30AM-2:30PM. Breakfast 7:30AM-10:15AM, Lunch 10:30AM-11:30AM, Dinner 1:30PM-2:30PM. Weekend and Holidays 10:00AM-2:10PM. Brunch 10:30AM-11:30AM, Dinner 1:30PM-2:30PM.

• **Overnight Shelter:** is currently at capacity.

• **Pantry:** M-F 9AM-2:30PM (or until 250 guest have been served). Bagged groceries, ID required.

• **Advocacy:** one advocate is on site daily for guests experiencing homelessness

• **Helpline:** available for all women in need (617) 318-0237

• **Legal Services:** Helpline 617-318-0271

• **Career Services:** Aisha Brown 617-510-7022

SERVICES AT HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Victim Resource Center (VRC) at Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA)

(617) 665-2992

www.challiance.org/VictimResourceCenter

A free service that provides confidential clinically informed advocacy services to violent crime victims.

Fenway Health

Office line (617) 927-6250 acting as a hotline during regular business hours M-F.

<https://fenwayhealth.org/>

Free counseling, advocacy, information for LGBT survivors of DV, SA, and hate violence.

LEGAL AID

De Novo (Formerly Community Legal Service and Counseling Center)

(617) 661-1010

www.denovo.org

Provides legal representation in areas of domestic violence, child custody, and family law. Offers mental health counseling.

Greater Boston Legal Services

<https://gbls.org/>

Provides free civil legal aid to low income individuals and families.

Victim Rights Law Center (VRLC)

(617) 399-6720

www.victimrights.org

Provides legal representation for victims of sexual assault.

HOUSING

Somerville Housing Authority

(617) 625-1152

www.sha-web.org

The Somerville Housing Authority would like to update you on measures we are taking in response to the recent news regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Residents, Applicants, & Section 8 Voucher Holders

[Click here for more information](#)

COVID 19 - LOCAL RESOURCES - FOOD AND OTHER SERVICES

[Click here for more information](#)

INTIMATE PARTNER ABUSE EDUCATION PROGRAMMING

Common Purpose

(617) 522-6500

<http://commonpurpose.com/main.htm>

Emerge

388 Pleasant St., Suite 204, Malden

For English speaking services call (617) 547-9879

For Spanish Speaking services call (617) 657-4895

Service locations in Cambridge, Malden, and Jamaica Plain (Spanish only)

www.emergedv.com

- **Intimate Partner Abuse Education Programs**
- All groups are now by webinar during their regular times, and supplemented by individual phone calls
- For non emergencies: call (617) 547-9879 or email info@emergedv.com.
- Urgent Questions: Email David Adams at <mailto:dadams9@aol.com> or call (617) 875-9049

OTHER INFORMATION

Statewide Food Source Hotline: (800) 645-8333 is Project Bread's toll-free line that provides info on food pantries, resources, student meal sights, etc.

Visit: www.foodpantries.org for list of food pantries (searchable by area/city)

Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA)

- Offices are closed to the public - all access and applications must be done telephonically or electronically.
- Apply for SNAP or TAFDC cash benefits by calling the DTA assistance line (877) 382-2363
- **DTA connect:** <https://dtacconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/> to apply online for benefits, submit documents, check benefits.

Parental Stress Hotline: (800) 632-8188 visit <https://www.parentshelpingparents.org/> for online support group information.

From the Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA): <https://www.challiance.org/help-center/covid-19-alert>

From the City of Somerville: A list of all city services you can access online can be found on www.somervillema.gov

Updated information on the City's response to COVID-19 (coronavirus) as well as contact information for the Public Health Department can be found at www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus

General questions should be directed to 311updates@somervillema.gov or by dialing 311.

Everett Family Resource Center

(781) 581-4750

<https://www.frcma.org/locations/everett-family-resource-center>

Family Resource Centers (FRCs) of Massachusetts serve as partners who help parents and children thrive by strengthening family bonds.

- The FRCs have compiled a list of food, monetary, educational, and housing resources for families during the COVID-19 crisis: <https://www.frcma.org/about/resources-support-you>

We all Need Help Sometimes

Call 211 for free, confidential, and multilingual services 24/7

<https://www.mass.gov/lists/we-all-need-help-sometimes>

Melissa.Threadgill@mass.gov

- Services can connect you to support for Domestic Violence, Housing/Utilities, Food/Meals, Mental Health, Substance Use/Treatment, Physical Health ,Clothing/Household Items, Parent/Family Support, Crisis Lines/Hotlines

*Document created by Cambridge PD Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocate and modified by Somerville Police Family Services Unit Advocate 5/5/21.