

SURVIVOR OF HOMICIDE VICTIM'S RIGHTS

*YOU DO NOT
HAVE TO GO
THROUGH THIS
ALONE.*



When your loved one is murdered, you are confronted with dozens of decisions about the funeral and burial, all of which must be made within a matter of days, and under great emotional stress. Within the first few hours and days you will also have dozens of service providers and systems to navigate. You may be wondering where to even begin. At a time when you can barely function, there is suddenly so much to do.

We don't promise to have all the answers. However, we will guide you in the right direction for services to help bury your loved one with dignity and respect.

Call the Survivors Outreach Services (SOS), a program of the Peace Institute. 617-825-1917.

This program is (partially) supported by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance through a Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA) grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Also with partial funding by The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The Boston Public Health Commission; The Shannon Grant through the Boston Police Department.

Survivors Outreach Services (SOS) offers families emotional and practical support 24-72 hours after a homicide. Our services are **free** and **confidential** and are meant to supplement information or services provided by a funeral home, place of worship, victims advocate, trauma response team, mental health providers, bereavement counselors or anyone else that offers support.

WHAT WE OFFER:

1. Personal understanding and validation.
2. Safe and peaceful meeting place.
3. Survivors Burial and Resource Guide & a Workbook for Grieving Children.
4. Memorial Peace Buttons & Memorial Funeral Programs.
5. Identify funerals home that will accept the state victim compensation.
6. Victim Compensation Application.
7. Information and referrals.

Under Massachusetts Law, you are eligible for certain rights and services. However, you must actively pursue these rights and services and you must know how to navigate the many systems as they each have a different protocol for how they do their work.

SOS Advocates work with many stakeholders with a goal of implementing coordinated, consistent, and compassionate responses to better serve you and your family.

We are here to offer guidance and support in your greatest time of need.

Call us 617-825-1917. www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org