

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

In Albany County

To reach any police department in an emergency dial **911**.

(All area codes 518 unless otherwise noted)

24 Hour Sexual Assault Hotline 447-7716

Albany City Police 438-4000

Albany County Probation 487-5200

Albany County Sheriff 487-5400

Altamont Police 861-5480

Bethlehem Police 439-9973

Coeymans Police 756-2059

Cohoes Police 237-5333

Colonie Police 783-2811

Green Island Police 273-2401

Guilderland Police 356-1501

Menands Police 463-1681

NYS Police 783-3211

University @ Albany Police 442-3131

Watervliet Police 270-3833

Equinox Domestic Violence Hotline 432-7865

Equinox Shelter 434-6135

NYS Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline (800) 942-6906

Suicide Prevention Hotline (800) 273-8255

In Our Own Voices (LGBT) 432-4188

Albany Medical Center Hospital 262-3125

Albany Memorial Hospital 471-3221

St. Peter's Hospital 525-1550

NYS Office of Victim Services (800) 247-8035

Albany County District Attorney 487-5460

Legal Aid Society 462-6765

Legal Project 435-1770

Albany County Mobile Crisis 447-9650

Online crisis support *CrisisChat.org*

Northeast Region 2-1-1 *dial 211*

(comprehensive community information and referral services www.neny.org)

FAMILY ADVOCATE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER (CAC)

The Family Advocate is a representative of the Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center and the Child Advocacy Center (CAC), who provides comprehensive victim advocacy and support to all children and families served by the CAC. The Family Advocate assists families by providing education, support, accompaniment and referrals. The Family Advocate is also available to facilitate community education programs pertaining to the prevention of child abuse and maltreatment.

TO REACH THE FAMILY ADVOCATE AT THE CAC CALL (518) 447-2525

The mission of the Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center (CVSVC) is to provide direct and comprehensive services to all individuals affected by sexual assault and other crimes of personal violence. Utilizing therapy, advocacy, community mobilization, prevention education and bystander engagement, CVSVC seeks to change societal conditions that allow and perpetuate oppression.



Daniel P. McCoy
Albany County Executive

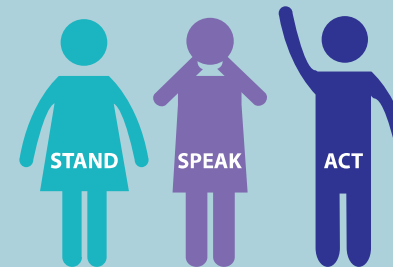
ALBANY COUNTY
Cares about our community

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity (as defined in paragraph 249(c)(4) of title 18, United States Code), sexual orientation, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under [VAWA], and any other program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds appropriated for grants, cooperative agreements, and other assistance administered by the Office on Violence Against Women.

All information in brochure accurate as of 6/18

ALBANY COUNTY CRIME VICTIM AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE CENTER

A sexual assault and crime victim assistance program



ADVOCACY COUNSELING HOTLINE EDUCATION

112 State Street, Room 1010
Albany, NY 12207

24-Hour Sexual Assault Hotline
(518) 447-7716

Main Office & Information
(518) 447-7100

Fax: (518) 447-7102

email: cvsvc@albanycounty.com

website: www.albanycounty.com/cvsvc

Proudly serving the community since 1975

Albany County Crime Victim and Sexual Violence is a department of Albany County government

ALBANY COUNTY CRIME VICTIM AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE CENTER

provides a comprehensive range of services to emotionally and physically injured crime victims in Albany County. Services are available to anyone of any age who has experienced a sexual assault or other interpersonal crime at any time in their life, or who has been affected by someone else's assault.

The Center provides information, referral services and criminal advocacy to crime victims. Professional staff and trained volunteers assist victims in filing claims for compensation through the New York State Office of Victim Services. Courts, law enforcement records and referrals from other agencies help identify crime victims in Albany County who qualify for our services.

The Center operates a 24 hour sexual assault hotline for crisis counseling and advocacy at Albany County hospitals and police stations for victims of sexual assault.

Confidential therapy for victims of interpersonal crimes, including sexual assault, domestic violence, assault and homicide, is available Monday through Friday by appointment. Friends and family members of crime victims may also schedule therapy appointments. Therapy is offered in individual, family or group sessions.

The Center offers public education programs on interpersonal violence prevention for adults, children and professional groups throughout Albany County.



All services are free

ADVOCACY

When a person becomes a victim of a violent crime, they are suddenly thrust into an unfamiliar medical or criminal justice system. Difficulties may arise when victims do not understand these systems and do not know their rights as a crime victim. Albany County Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center has trained advocates who are knowledgeable in the procedures of courts, law enforcement and hospitals. Advocates are available to provide information and assistance to crime victims in those settings.

Court Advocates are located in all local courts within Albany County. Court advocacy may involve speaking to an Assistant District Attorney or judge on behalf of the victim; providing support during testimony; offering information on the criminal justice process; or referring victims to additional services, including the New York State Office of Victim Services.

Advocates are also available to meet sexual assault victims in any of the three hospital emergency departments in Albany County. In the emergency department a victim will receive a Forensic Rape Exam. An advocate will provide support during the exam. Evidence of the crime can be collected and held. If a police report is made the advocate can be present while the law enforcement officer takes the victim's statement. **If the victim is uninsured the NYS Office of Victim Services will pay the hospital directly for the cost of the Forensic Rape Exam.** The advocate will assist the victim in completing the NYS Office of Victim Services application.



THERAPY

The purpose of therapy is to help crime victims in their healing process following their victimization. The Center offers individual, family and group therapy to any victim of interpersonal crimes who resides in or who was victimized in Albany county. Professional therapists have specialties in children, teen and adult victims. They work with victims of sexual assault, molestation, domestic violence, homicide and other interpersonal crimes. Children or adults who witnessed violence, particularly within their own family or relationships, are also eligible for therapy services.

TO SCHEDULE A THERAPY APPOINTMENT, CALL (518) 447-7100

24 HOUR SEXUAL ASSAULT HOTLINE (518) 447-7716

Albany County Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center maintains a 24 hour hotline for past and present victims of sexual assault. Staff and

trained volunteers are available to provide crisis intervention counseling, answer questions and offer referrals. Albany County hospital emergency departments or law enforcement agencies may call the hotline to request a counselor's presence while a sexual assault victim is being examined or interviewed.

CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT

Our campus coordinator can help college students in Albany County who have experienced sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, or sexual harassment in any area of their lives - in or out of school.

Students can receive confidential assistance over the phone or in person about their rights, counseling, reporting, on-campus accommodations, and more. Students are entitled to have an advocate or advisor with them when meeting with school personnel or law enforcement.

We understand that these situations can be extremely confusing and intimidating, and we hope that you will call **even if you're not sure about what happened or how to categorize it.** No matter the circumstances, if it matters to you, we want to help.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Our case managers provide comprehensive, coordinated care to crime victims dealing with complex needs. Referrals and service coordination with the NYS OVS Vocational Rehabilitation Unit and the NY Civil Legal Network, among others, as appropriate. The case managers will serve as a point of contact and provide multi-system advocacy.

EDUCATION

The Center provides free lectures to teachers, parents, teens, children and professional and community groups in Albany County. Presentations are tailored to the interest, need and education level of the audience. The following are just some of the topics available for presentations:

- Child Sexual Abuse Prevention
- Healthy Relationships
- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Non-stranger Assault
- Safety Techniques and Crime Prevention
- Bullying Prevention

Assistance is also available to students and others researching crime victim related topics.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Center utilizes volunteers as court advocates and crisis hotline counselors. Volunteers complete an intensive training program which prepares them for crime victim advocacy in court or on the 24 hour sexual assault hotline. Crisis hotline counselors also meet with sexual assault victims in the Albany County hospital emergency departments or police stations.

The thirty-five hour hotline volunteer training program has been certified by the NYS Department of Health. Upon completion of the training sequence, volunteers will be registered as Certified Rape Crisis Counselors.

The Center also offers opportunities to assist in the office.

Descriptions and applications can be found on the Center's website: www.albanycounty.com/cvsvc

NYS OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES

The New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS) may compensate innocent victims of violent crime who have been injured and report the crime to law enforcement. OVS may also compensate uninjured victims who are age 60 and older, under 18 years old, and/or disabled. Compensation is available for a variety of out-of-pocket expenses due to the crime.

Center staff and trained volunteers will assist victims in completing and submitting the NYS Office of Victim Services application.

In some circumstances, an emergency award may be granted by OVS. Emergencies are determined by OVS on a case-by-case basis.

Additional information can be found on the NYS OVS website: www.ovs.ny.gov