

# SERVING CRIME VICTIMS WITH DISABILITIES



*The Time Is Now*

Office for Victims of Crime  
**OVC**



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**Office of Justice Programs**  
810 Seventh Street NW.  
Washington, DC 20531

**John Ashcroft**  
*Attorney General*

**Deborah J. Daniels**  
*Assistant Attorney General*

**John W. Gillis**  
*Director, Office for Victims of Crime*

---

**Office of Justice Programs**  
**World Wide Web Home Page**  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov)

---

**Office for Victims of Crime**  
**World Wide Web Home Page**  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc)

---

For grant and funding information, contact  
**U.S. Department of Justice Response Center**  
1-800-421-6770

---

**OVC Resource Center**  
1-800-627-6872  
(TTY 1-877-712-9279)  
[www.ncjrs.org](http://www.ncjrs.org)

---

**OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center**  
1-866-682-8822  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/welcome.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/welcome.html)

NCJ 188514

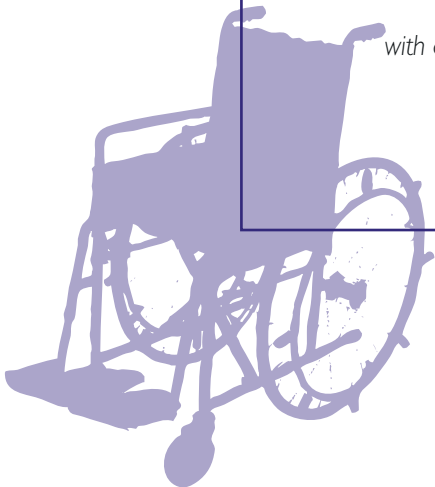
Preparation of this videotape and discussion guide was supported by grant number 1999-VF-GX-0008, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

The Office for Victims of Crime is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

# Serving Crime Victims With Disabilities: The Time Is Now

## Resources for Change

*This information on select national disability service and advocacy organizations is provided as a starting point for victim assistance providers who want to learn more about serving victims of crime who have disabilities. Many of these organizations have local chapters or affiliates that can help you find out more about people with disabilities. You can use this list to begin developing your own list of local agencies that are interested in working with you to assist victims with disabilities.*



## OVC Resources

### Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)

Office of Justice Programs  
U.S. Department of Justice  
810 Seventh Street NW, Eighth Floor  
Washington, DC 20531  
202-307-5983  
Fax: 202-514-6383  
Web site: [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc)

OVC provides quick and easy access to funding information, training and technical assistance, publications, skill-building tools, and other vital information resources to enhance the response to victims of crime. Formally established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, OVC's mission has always been to enhance the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and provide leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime. OVC provides many of the tools to help through its Resource Center and Training and Technical Assistance Center (described below).

A major responsibility of OVC is the administration of the Crime Victims Fund, which provides formula grants to the states to help fund their victim assistance and compensation programs. *Crime victim compensation programs* have been established in every state to help crime victims cope with crime-related expenses such as medical costs, mental health counseling, lost wages, or funeral and burial costs. *Crime victim assistance programs* provide important services for crime victims, including crisis support, referrals to counseling, advocacy within

the criminal justice system, and, in some cases, emergency shelter. For more information on these programs, please visit the OVC Web site or contact the OVC Resource Center.

### OVC Resource Center (OVCRC)

P.O. Box 6000  
Rockville, MD 20849-6000  
1-800-627-6872 or 301-519-5500  
(TTY 1-877-712-9279)  
E-mail: [askovc@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:askovc@ojp.usdoj.gov)  
To order publications online:  
<http://puborder.ncjrs.org>

OVCRC disseminates comprehensive information and resources for victim service providers and allied professionals, including up-to-date research and statistics, victim-related publications, and other information resources and referrals. OVCRC information specialists provide tailored responses to requests for help and assist with research.

### OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC)

10530 Rosehaven Street, Suite 400  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
1-866-OVC-TTAC (1-866-682-8822)  
Fax: 703-279-4673  
E-mail: [TTAC@ovcttac.org](mailto:TTAC@ovcttac.org)  
Web site: [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/welcome.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/welcome.html)

OVC TTAC can help agencies and organizations expand their understanding of victims' issues, assess program needs, and establish sound policies. Help is available to identify and secure speakers for conferences and workshops, provide training on victims' issues, find facilitators

for focus groups and strategic planning meetings, and access tools and skill-building activities aimed at helping service providers work effectively with

crime victims. OVC TTAC offers scheduled trainings developed by OVC grantees and maintains an annual calendar of training events.

---

## General Resources

---

### ADA Technical Assistance Program

Disability Rights Section, Civil Rights Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.  
Washington, DC 20530  
1-800-514-0301 (TTY 1-800-514-0383)  
Web site: [www.usdoj.gov/crt/drs/drshome.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/drs/drshome.htm)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Technical Assistance Program of the Disability Rights Section of the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division promotes voluntary compliance with ADA by providing free information and assistance to businesses, state and local governments, people with disabilities, and the general public. The technical assistance program develops and disseminates ADA publications, provides ADA training at meetings nationwide, and conducts outreach to broad and targeted audiences. The program also maintains the Disability Rights Section's ADA Web site, including the ADA home page, which provides access to the ADA statute, regulations, technical assistance materials, and other information.

### Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)

E-mail: [doj@uwyo.edu](mailto:doj@uwyo.edu)  
Web site: <http://wind.uwyo.edu/doj>

With grant funding from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), AUCD (formerly known as the American Association of University Affiliated Programs) in coordination with the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities has developed an online guide of training resources related to crime victims with disabilities, the *Guide to Resources Focusing on Persons With Disabilities Who Are Victims of Crime*. This resource guide includes an online mechanism (a searchable database) that allows users to provide information to modify and update the database.

### Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers (DBTACs)

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research  
400 Maryland Avenue SW.  
Washington, DC 20202-2572  
Voice/TTY: 1-800-949-4232  
Web site: [www.adata.org/dbtac.html](http://www.adata.org/dbtac.html)

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education through the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, the 10 regional DBTACs provide information, technical assistance, public awareness, and training on all aspects of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). DBTACs also provide online and hardcopy

publications about ADA regulations and resources. Advocates can get contact information for their local DBTAC on the Web site or by calling the 800 number.

**National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NAPAS)**

900 Second Street NE., Suite 211  
Washington, DC 20002  
202-408-9514 (TTY 202-408-9521)  
Fax: 202-408-9520  
E-mail: [napas@earthlink.net](mailto:napas@earthlink.net)  
Web site: [www.protectionandadvocacy.com](http://www.protectionandadvocacy.com)

NAPAS is a national membership association of protection advocacy systems and client assistance programs that works to strengthen members' ability to provide quality legal and advocacy services. Congressionally mandated, legally based disability rights agencies include the Protection and Advocacy System and the Client Assistance Program, which together provide legal representation, advocacy services, information, and assistance to people who have disabilities under federal and state laws. NAPAS maintains a comprehensive list of the national network of state Protection and Advocacy Agencies for people with developmental disabilities and mental illness and agencies participating in the Client Assistance Program. This list includes all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Republic of Palau, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Native American special services.

**National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)**

1916 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 209  
Arlington, VA 22201  
703-525-3406 (TTY 703-525-4153)  
Fax: 703-525-3409  
E-mail: [ncil@ncil.org](mailto:ncil@ncil.org)  
Web site: [www.ncil.org](http://www.ncil.org)

NCIL is a national membership association for local centers for independent living (CILs) and people with disabilities. Each CIL is a community-based, nonresidential organization rooted in the philosophy of self-help that stresses independent living skills for people with disabilities. NCIL can provide advocates with the contact information for local CILs around the country.

**National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)**

4200 Forbes Boulevard, Suite 202  
Lanham, MD 20706  
1-800-346-2742 or 301-459-5900  
(TTY 301-459-4263)  
Fax: 301-562-2401  
E-mail: [naricinfo@heitechservices.com](mailto:naricinfo@heitechservices.com)  
Web site: [www.naric.com](http://www.naric.com)

NARIC, funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, provides practitioners and the general public with comprehensive information and research about many kinds of disabilities. Its Web site has an online searchable database, and NARIC information specialists provide information and referral, customized database searches, and document delivery. Interested people may sign up for NARIC's free literature awareness service.

---

## **Blindness and Visual Impairments**

---

### **American Council of the Blind (ACB)**

1155 15th Street NW, Suite 1004  
Washington, DC 20005  
1-800-424-8666 or 202-467-5081  
Fax: 202-467-5085  
E-mail: [info@acb.org](mailto:info@acb.org)  
Web site: <http://acb.org/acb>

ACB is a national membership organization of blind and visually impaired people, including 51 state and regional affiliates and 20 national special interest and professional affiliates. The council strives to improve the well-being of all blind and visually impaired people. Among its services are toll-free information and referrals on all aspects of blindness, public education and awareness training, and an annual national conference.

### **American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)**

11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300  
New York, NY 10001  
1-800-AFB-LINE (1-800-232-5463) or  
212-502-7600  
Fax: 212-502-7777  
E-mail: [afbinfo@afb.net](mailto:afbinfo@afb.net)  
Web site: <http://afb.org>

AFB is a leading national resource for people who are blind or visually impaired, the organizations that serve them, and the

general public. AFB serves as a one-stop information and referral resource and maintains an online, searchable directory of organizations that provide services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Headquartered in New York City, AFB has offices in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, and San Francisco and a government relations office in Washington, D.C.

### **National Federation of the Blind (NFB)**

1800 Johnson Street  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
410-659-9314  
E-mail: [nfb@nfb.org](mailto:nfb@nfb.org)  
Web site: [www.nfb.org](http://www.nfb.org)

NFB is a national membership organization of blind people with affiliates in the 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico and more than 700 local chapters. NFB acts as a consumer and advocacy organization and provides public education, information and referral services, adaptive equipment for the blind, development and evaluation of technology, and support for blind people and their families. NFB maintains an online directory of private and government resources and services for blind and visually impaired people at the state and local levels.

---

## Deafness and Hearing Impairments

---

### **Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services (ADWAS)**

2627 Eastlake Avenue East  
Seattle, WA 98102-3213  
TTY: 206-726-0093  
24-hour TTY crisis line: 206-236-3134  
Fax: 206-726-0017  
E-mail: [adwas@adwas.org](mailto:adwas@adwas.org)  
Web site: [www.adwas.org](http://www.adwas.org)

ADWAS was founded in 1986 by deaf women to provide services in a sensitive and healing environment for deaf and deaf-blind victims of sexual assault and domestic abuse in the Seattle area. ADWAS also coordinates education programs on topics such as positive deaf parenting, child advocacy and support, and community outreach. With grant funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, ADWAS is working to replicate its program in 15 cities across the Nation that have large deaf populations.

### **National Association of the Deaf (NAD)**

814 Thayer Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-4500  
301-587-1788 (TTY 301-587-1789)  
Fax: 301-587-1791  
E-mail: [NADinfo@nad.org](mailto:NADinfo@nad.org)  
Web site: [www.nad.org](http://www.nad.org)

NAD membership includes 51 state and district associations providing programs and activities that include grassroots advocacy, captioned media, certification of American Sign Language interpreters and other professionals who use the language in their work, deafness-related information and publications, legal assistance, policy development and research, public awareness, and youth leadership development. With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, NAD administers the Captioned Media Program (CMP), which offers outreach, technical assistance, and research to captioning agencies, video producers, and distributors.

---

## Developmental Disabilities

---

### **The ARC of the United States**

1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 650  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301-565-3842  
Fax: 301-565-5342  
E-mail: [info@thearc.org](mailto:info@thearc.org)  
Web site: [www.thearc.org](http://www.thearc.org)

The ARC is the leading national organization of and for people with mental retardation and related developmental

disabilities and their families, with nearly 1,000 state and local chapters nationwide. Individual chapters provide information and referral, support for parents of children with mental retardation, advocacy, services for adults with mental retardation, and recreation opportunities for people with mental retardation. Advocates can find contact information for local ARC chapters on the Web site or by calling the national headquarters.



**Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)**

8630 Fenton Street, Suite 410  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301-588-8252  
Fax: 301-588-2842  
Web site: [www.aucd.org](http://www.aucd.org)

AUCD (formerly American Association of University Affiliated Programs) is the national organization that represents more than 100 disability-related programs at universities and medical schools. AUCD's mission is to advance policy and practice for and with people living with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and communities. AUCD members form a network of interdisciplinary centers that engage in research, education, and service that further independence, productivity, and full community participation of people with developmental disabilities. Advocates can contact the national center for information on the closest AUCD-affiliated program.

**President's Committee on Mental Retardation (PCMR)**

Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
370 L'Enfant Promenade SW., Suite 701  
Washington, DC 20447-0001  
202-619-0634  
Fax: 202-205-9519  
E-mail: [pcmr@acf.dhhs.gov](mailto:pcmr@acf.dhhs.gov)  
Web site: [www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/pcmr](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/pcmr)

PCMR acts in an advisory capacity to the President and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on matters relating to programs and services for people with mental retardation. PCMR has adopted several national goals to better recognize and uphold the right of all people with mental retardation to enjoy a quality of life that promotes independence, self-determination, and participation as productive members of society.

---

## **Learning Disabilities**

---

**Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA)**

4156 Library Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15234-1349  
412-341-1515  
Fax: 412-344-0224  
E-mail: [info@ldaamerica.org](mailto:info@ldaamerica.org)  
Web site: [www.ldanatl.org](http://www.ldanatl.org)

LDA is a national, nonprofit, volunteer organization with local chapters in each

state that is dedicated to helping people with learning disabilities and supporting endeavors to determine the causes of learning disabilities. LDA membership includes individuals with learning disabilities, their families, and the professionals who work with them. The Web site provides a list of publications and other resources on learning disabilities.

**National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)**

381 Park Avenue South, Suite 1401  
New York, NY 10016  
1-888-575-7373 or 212-545-7510  
Fax: 212-545-9665

Web site: [www.nclid.org](http://www.nclid.org)

NCLD works to increase public awareness and understanding of learning

disabilities, conducts educational programs and services that promote research-based knowledge, and provides national leadership in shaping public policy. The center maintains an online database of state programs that deal with learning disabilities.

---

## Psychological Disabilities

---

**Alzheimer's Association**

919 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1100  
Chicago, IL 60611-1676  
1-800-272-3900 or 312-335-8700  
Fax: 312-335-1110

E-mail: [info@alz.org](mailto:info@alz.org)

Web site: [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)

The Alzheimer's Association is the largest national voluntary organization dedicated to conquering Alzheimer's disease. Its mission is to provide leadership to eliminate Alzheimer's disease by advancing research while enhancing care and support services for individuals with the disease and their families. The association has nearly 200 local chapters throughout the nation that offer helplines, support groups, education, advocacy, and a safe-return program for those with Alzheimer's who have wandered off and become lost.

**National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)**

Colonial Place Three  
2107 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22201-3042  
703-524-7600 (TTY 703-516-7227)  
NAMI Helpline: 1-800-950-NAMI  
(1-800-950-6264)

Fax: 703-524-9094

Web site: [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

NAMI is a nonprofit support and advocacy alliance of organizations and families and friends of people with severe mental illnesses. NAMI has 1,200 state and local affiliates in the United States. Working on the local, state, and national levels, NAMI provides education about mental illness and works actively to achieve equitable services for individuals with severe mental illness. NAMI maintains a database of support groups and a national toll-free helpline number for referrals.

**National Mental Health Association (NMHA)**

1021 Prince Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-2971  
703-684-7722 (TTY 1-800-433-5959)  
Fax: 703-684-5968  
NMHA Resource Center: 1-800-969-NMHA  
(1-800-969-6642)  
E-mail: [infoctr@nmha.org](mailto:infoctr@nmha.org)  
Web site: [www.nmha.org](http://www.nmha.org)

NMHA works to improve the mental health of all Americans and has more than 340 affiliates nationwide. The NMHA Resource Center is a nationally recognized source for information on mental illnesses and treatments and for referrals to local treatment services. NMHA can provide individuals with referrals to more than 7,000 mental health organizations nationwide.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857  
301-443-8956  
E-mail: [info@samhsa.gov](mailto:info@samhsa.gov)  
Web site: [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

SAMHSA is the federal agency dedicated to strengthening the Nation's health care capacity to provide prevention, diagnosis, and treatment services for substance abuse and mental illness. SAMHSA maintains several clearinghouses (accessible on the Web site) with information on substance abuse and mental health topics.

---

**Traumatic Injuries**

---

**Brain Injury Association of America (BIA)**

105 North Alfred Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-236-6000  
Family Helpline: 1-800-444-6443  
Fax: 703-236-6001  
Web site: [www.biausa.org](http://www.biausa.org)

The BIA mission is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, research, education, and advocacy. BIA has chapters in every state and can provide advocates with a national directory of brain injury rehabilitation services. Its Web site is a good source for brain injury information.

**National Spinal Cord Injury Association (NSCIA)**

6701 Democracy Boulevard, Suite 300-9  
Bethesda, MD 20817  
301-588-6959  
Helpline: 1-800-962-9629  
Fax: 301-588-9414  
Web site: [www.spinalcord.org](http://www.spinalcord.org)

NSCIA is dedicated to helping people who suffer from the catastrophic results of spinal cord injury and disease. The Web site and helpline also provide information about spinal cord injuries.

# NOTES

---

