



**\*DRAFT\***



## Resources for Families of Homicide Victims

Sadly, people from all over New York City have lost family members to gun violence. When a life is lost, families want to ensure that their loved one's name is not forgotten. Many of them stop by our office to find out how they can honor the lives lost by connecting to others in similar situations and even starting their own foundations. In the fall of 2012 the Crown Heights Community Mediation Center decided to create a record of all of the resources that support families' grieving and rebuilding process.

The list is organized into several sections to categorize organizations, and includes:

- Organizations supporting family members of homicide victims
- Organizations founded by family members of homicide victims
- Support for Starting a Non-Profit
- Resources and support in the grieving process

This listing is a work in progress, so please contact Ariana Siegel at [siegelar@crowheights.org](mailto:siegelar@crowheights.org) or call 718-773-6886 if you know of additional organizations that should be included.

### **New York organizations supporting family members of homicide victims**

#### **1) Parents of Murdered Children**

[www.pomc.com/](http://www.pomc.com/)

Bronx Chapter Leader: Patricia Solomon-Lawrence 718.860.6795

Email: [NBX-Wschtr-POMC@hotmail.com](mailto:NBX-Wschtr-POMC@hotmail.com)

Meetings: 3rd Saturday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM at Calvary Hospital, 1740 Eastchester Road, Bronx

**Services:** support groups, memorial wall

Long Island Chapter Leader: Marilyn McNeil, 917.2094491, [mdcros@aol.com](mailto:mdcros@aol.com)

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of every month, 2:00 to 4:00, Mather Hospital, Main Floor Conference Room 4&5, North Country Road, Port Jefferson

POMC provides support and assistance to all survivors of homicide victims while working to create a world free of murder. Membership is open to those who have been cruelly bereaved by the murder of a loved one. Professionals who are in frequent contact with grieving families are also welcome to join.

"The Murder Wall" carries the names of murder victims on engraved, solid walnut plaques. Each plaque contains 120 names, dates of birth and of death. Approximately 250 names are added each year. If you are interested in purchasing a plaque for a loved one, please go online to print out the Murder Wall Order Form. The cost to have a loved one's name inscribed on a plaque on the Murder Wall is \$75.00.

## 2) Safe Horizons

[www.safehorizon.org/](http://www.safehorizon.org/)

Brooklyn Families of Homicide Victims Program  
189 Montague Street 6th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
718.624.2111 (phone)  
help@safehorizon.org

**Services:** support groups, counseling

Safe Horizon Brooklyn Counseling Center  
180 Livingston Street, Suite 303, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Since 1979, Safe Horizon has operated Community Programs in New York City to support, educate, and advocate for victims of crime and abuse.

Support Groups: Although everybody grieves and experiences emotional pain in very individual ways, when we come together to share our experiences, we see that there are many similarities too. Support groups can help you find strength and support in those similarities. Safe Horizon offers support groups for women coping with the trauma of domestic violence, *for people who lost a family member to homicide*, for incest survivors, for victims of child abuse and their non-offending parents, for rape and sexual assault victims, as well as others.

## 3) New York State Office of Victim Services

[www.ovs.ny.gov/home.aspx](http://www.ovs.ny.gov/home.aspx)

Address: 55 Hanson Place, 10th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11217, 718-923-4325

**Services:** monetary compensation

The New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS) is here to help you in a number of ways as you, a family member, or friend cope with victimization from a crime. A core mission of OVS is to provide compensation to innocent victims of crime for their out-of-pocket losses associated with the crime. This compensation, which in New York is broad and comprehensive, particularly in the area of long-term medical benefits, provides some financial relief to victims. OVS also has a very active grants program that supports nearly 200 Victim Assistance Programs across the State.

## 4) Brooklyn DA's Crime-Victim Services Unit

[www.brooklynnda.org/vsu/vsu.htm](http://www.brooklynnda.org/vsu/vsu.htm)

(718) 250-3820

**Services:** counseling, advocacy, information

The Kings County District Attorney's Office recognizes that being a victim of, or witness to, a crime can be a traumatic and confusing experience, and we will do everything we can to help you. We are committed to getting you the information and assistance you need. Trained counselors and advocates are available to meet with you and your family in a warm, safe environment located conveniently inside the District Attorney's Office at 350 Jay Street in downtown Brooklyn. The Victim Services Unit provides safety, support, advocacy and information to all individuals who have been criminally victimized in Brooklyn.

Services Include:

- crisis counseling
- safety planning
- court escort
- advocacy with other agencies
- physical and mental health referrals

- assistance to eligible applicants in filing for financial and
- medical bill reimbursement

**5) Harlem Mothers S.A.V.E.**

[harlemmotherssave.com/](http://harlemmotherssave.com/)

2471 Frederick Douglass Blvd, New York, NY 10027

212.928.0150 or 212.234.0112

**Services:** community organizing, public education, counseling/victim services

Mission: To Prolong Life among Harlem's Youth by Preventing Gun Violence! Harlem Mothers SAVE (Stop Another Violent End) seeks to prolong the lives of Harlem's youth by preventing gun violence and its social causes and costs. Harlem Mothers S.A.V.E. focuses on three main areas: activism, victim services and education.

Activism: Work to prevent the inter-state transportation and illegal sale of guns in Harlem, as well as seek the enactment of stricter local, state and national legislation that will limit the easy availability of guns on the city streets.

Education: Encourage peaceful methods of conflict resolution and thereby prevent the use of guns to settle disputes among Harlem youth.

Victim Services: Offer support and counsel to bereaved parents and loved ones who have lost a family member to gun violence. Peer-to-Peer Support, Funeral Expenses and Bereavement Services referral, Counseling and Healing Group Referral

**6) Fathers Alive In The Hood**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/FathersAliveInTheHood](http://www.facebook.com/FathersAliveInTheHood)

Blog: <http://fathersaliveinthe.blogspot.com/>

**Services:** community mobilization, with focus on outreach to black men

Fathers Alive in the Hood (F.A.I.T.H.) is a community-based organization of fathers of color whose aim is to address the problem of gang and gun violence across New York's five boroughs. Kenny Carter, F.A.I.T.H.'s president and the father of a 10-year-old son, started the organization after a series of violent incidents in which he noticed a lackluster community response. F.A.I.T.H. has members in Queens, Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx; the men make regular visits to high-crime areas and pass out flyers in order to build membership of people who are tired of the violence, want to get active, and make a difference. The men meet regularly to help build a support network, counsel each other, reinforce the value of fatherhood, share information and learn how to be a conscious role model for other young men.

**7) Brooklyn Chinese-American Crime Victim Assistance Program**

<http://www.bca.net/eng/crimevictim.html>

Program Location: 5000 8th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11220, Telephone: (718) 438-0008

Monday to Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Services:** crime victim services, focus on Chinese language

At the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association (BCA), we provide a variety of Crime Victims Assistance services that are established by New York State Crime Victims Board. We team up with local police precincts and other agencies to help address the needs of our crime victim clients. Our Crime Victims specialist offers bilingual (Chinese and English) Crime Victims

Assistance services include the following:

- Crime victims compensation (medical expenses, lost earnings and related fees)
- Crime reporting assistance
- Crime victims assistance hotline
- Accompaniment to police precincts, District Attorney's office, and courts
- Referral and case management, Counseling
- Advocacy and follow up

We also conduct crime prevention and public safety workshops with local police precincts.

**8) New York County District Attorney's Office**

List of further resources for families of murder victims:

<http://manhattanda.org/resources-families-murder-victims>

**9) Put Down The Guns Organization**

Davina Perez, (718) 971-3507  
 1859 Flatbush Avenue  
 Brooklyn, NY 11210-4840

**Services:** youth organizing and mentorship

Put Down The Guns Organization was created by Davina Perez, an Advocate against youth gun and gang violence. The organization specializes in improving the socialization skills of "youth" by giving them "alternatives" to gun and gang violence via mentorship, internships, workshops, concerts, talent shows, television and athletic and musical events, in which, athletes, musicians, actors and entrepreneurs are mentors to the "youth".

**Organizations founded by family members of homicide victims**

**1) Christopher Rose Community Empowerment Campaign**

[forchrisrose.tripod.com/id18.html](http://forchrisrose.tripod.com/id18.html)

Brooklyn Chapter, 637 Hegeman Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11207

Phone: 718.272. 2363

Email: [forchrisrose@yahoo.com](mailto:forchrisrose@yahoo.com)

**Services:** public education and community organizing

The Christopher Rose Community Empowerment Campaign will aim to mobilize community stakeholders and others for support and involvement in activities to increase community awareness of the following:

- The factors that contribute to youth violence
- Occurrences of violence
- The impact of violence
- Strategies for preventing delinquency of adolescents that leads to youth gang involvement and community violence

One of our primary goals will be to raise community awareness not only of the growing threat of gang violence, but also of ways to combat it. Christopher was killed in the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn and we would like to concentrate our initial efforts on strengthening this community so that it is better prepared to ward off the gang violence which is beginning to encroach upon this vibrant and beautiful neighborhood before it is too late. We hope that with time and the success of our efforts in East Flatbush, we will be able to expand to other neighborhoods in Brooklyn!

**2) Not Another Child, Inc**

481 Van Brunt Street 8A  
 Brooklyn, NY, 11231

Phone: 646-537-1735

Oresa Napper-Williams  
email: [oresa@notanotherchild.org](mailto:oresa@notanotherchild.org)

phone: 347.371.9011

**Services:** Peer support, extra help around the holidays, mental health assistance, comedy night and other community events. Part of the Cure Violence Initiative.

Not Another Child is a Not for Profit organization established in August, 2006 in loving memory of Andrell D. Napper. Andrell was a popular New York teen that was ironically a double victim of gun violence. The second incident resulted in his tragic & untimely death. One of the young men that plead guilty in Andrell's murderer was 15 years old at the time and was recruited by a 32 year old to retaliate the murder of his loved one; an incident that had nothing to do with Andrell. NAC is founded under the premise that they will not let another child to be manipulated and prostituted to do the work of another individual and that another child's life will be taken before their time. Oresa Napper, Andrell's mother is survived to make a positive change... a change in choices, a change in lifestyle and a change in outcomes.

The organization was founded with one purpose; to save our children from senseless killings. NAC is committed to changing the mindset of our youth. Our mission is to enlighten our youth of positive alternatives, stop the gun traffic and prevent the sale of illegal handguns, all the while securing our youth for a successful future.

### 3) Shannon Braithwaite Foundation

[www.ShannonTBraithwaiteFoundation.org](http://www.ShannonTBraithwaiteFoundation.org)

Marva Braithwaite: 347-307-8902

Michael Miller: 347-331-6708

**Services:** youth organizing and activities

The Shannon T. Braithwaite Foundation has been created to help our youth become more productive in their lives by allowing them to enjoy an environment that permits them to hone their skills and talents while developing them into industrious young adults. This community center will be a safe setting that will help parents and teens ages 13 to 19 enjoy a positive atmosphere away from the disparaging pressures that Teenagers are exposed to in their everyday lives.

### 4) Damon S. Allen Foundation Against Violence

347.661.0736

[debbieg.griffindaza@gmail.com](mailto:debbieg.griffindaza@gmail.com)

**Services:** community organizing

Debbie Griffin Daza's cousin Damon Allen was a 33 year old Brooklyn sanitation worker who received a Citation of Valor from the City of New York for rescuing a 4 year old girl from a burning building. He was shot and killed while leaving a party in Crown Heights on September 4th, 2006. Several reports from that evening indicate that Allen was struck in the head as he pushed two young women to the ground to shield them from the crossfire. He left behind two young daughters. Unfortunately, right near St. Marks Avenue which is named in his honor, Damon S. Allen Way, shootings continue to occur. The Damon S. Allen Foundation has partnered with other organizations to conduct various events such as the creation of the "Piece Out/Peace In" mural near Brower park and the Damon S. Allen "Day of Unity," among other things.

### 5) Brooklyn Jewish Children's Museum

[www.jcm.museum/](http://www.jcm.museum/)

792 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11213

General Inquiries & Tickets: 718.907.8833, [info@jcm.museum](mailto:info@jcm.museum)

**Services:** Children's museum

On March 1, 1994, 17-year-old Ari Halberstam was mercilessly gunned down by a Lebanese terrorist on the Brooklyn Bridge, while returning from the hospital where he had been praying for recovery the Lubavitcher Rebbe. Ari passed away five days later. The Jewish Children's Museum is dedicated in Ari's memory, to provide future generations of children with a clear message of inspiration, joy and hope, to promote harmony and understanding through knowledge and education, the things for which Ari lived and died.

The Jewish Children's Museum provides exhibitions and programs for all children in an educational and entertaining format. Primarily, the Museum serves elementary school-age children and their families. The Museum is a setting for children of all faiths and backgrounds to gain a positive perspective and awareness of the Jewish heritage, fostering tolerance and understanding.

#### 6) Lay the Guns Down Campaign

[Ltgundc.org](http://ltgundc.org)

**Services:** public education

Mike Tucker was determined to channel his family's tragedy into something beneficial to his community. So he created the Lay the Guns Down Campaign, which aims to raise awareness about gun violence in Brooklyn through public service announcements by well-known figures.

### Support for Starting a Non-Profit

#### 1) The Foundation Center NY

<http://foundationcenter.org/newyork>

79 Fifth Avenue/16th Street  
New York, NY 10003-3076  
Phone: 212.620.4230

**Services:** libraries/ databases/ website with information on non-profit creation and management

The Foundation Center is the leading source of information about philanthropy worldwide. Through data, analysis, and training, it connects people who want to change the world to the resources they need to succeed. The Center maintains the most comprehensive database on U.S. and, increasingly, global grantmakers and their grants — a robust, accessible knowledge bank for the sector. It also operates research, education, and training programs designed to advance knowledge of philanthropy at every level. Thousands of people visit the Center's web site each day and are served in its five regional library/learning centers and its network of 450 funding information centers located in public libraries, community foundations, and educational institutions nationwide and beyond.

The Center accomplishes its mission by:

- Operating library/learning centers in five locations—New York City; Washington, DC; Atlanta; Cleveland; and San Francisco—that offer free access to information resources and educational programs.
- Maintaining unique databases of information on the nearly 100,000 foundations, corporate donors, and grantmaking public charities in the U.S. and 2.1 million of their recent grants. Its Foundation Directory Online subscription service is the most popular means for searching these databases.
- Providing a content-rich web site with a variety of free search tools, tutorials, downloadable reports, and other information updated daily, including PubHub, its

searchable online collection of thousands of reports published by foundations and nonprofit organizations.

- Educating thousands of people each year through a full curriculum of training courses — in the classroom and online in the form of self-paced courses and tutorials, as well as webinars. Free and affordable classes nationwide cover the funding research process, proposal writing, grantmakers and their giving, and related topics.

## 2) **Lawyers Alliance for New York**

<http://www.lawyersalliance.org/index.php>

171 Madison Avenue (corner of 33rd Street), 6th Floor, New York, New York 10016

Phone: 212.219.1800

Email: [info@lawyersalliance.org](mailto:info@lawyersalliance.org)

**Services:** legal aid for non-profits

Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, we help nonprofits to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, promote community arts, and operate and advocate for vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, and other low-income New Yorkers.

## 3) **Fund for the City of New York (FCNY)**

<http://www.fcny.org/fcny/core/>

121 Avenue of the Americas, 6th Floor

New York, NY 10013

Phone: 212.925.6675

**Services:** monetary and tech support for non-profits

The Fund for the City of New York was established by the Ford Foundation in 1968 with the mandate to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers. For over three decades, in partnership with government agencies, nonprofit institutions and foundations, the Fund has developed and helped to implement innovations in policy, programs, practices and technology in order to advance the functioning of government and nonprofit organizations in New York City and beyond.

In order to strengthen the infrastructure of nonprofits, the Fund has created a cluster of management and technology programs directed to improving their administrative and service capacity by lending money against delayed payments, providing back office support to new initiatives, and equipping nonprofits with the systems they need to be able to compete with the private sector.

## 4) **Brecht Forum**

<http://brechtforum.org/>

451 West Street

New York, NY 10014

Phone: 212.242.4201

**Services:** collaboration on public benefit projects

The BRECHT FORUM is a cultural and educational center for people who are working for social justice, equality and a new culture that puts human needs first. Through its programs and events, the Brecht Forum brings people together across social and cultural boundaries and artistic and academic disciplines to promote critical analysis, creative thinking, collaborative projects and networking in an independent community-level environment.

## Resources and support in the grieving process

1) **Open To Hope: Finding Hope After Loss**

[www.opentohope.com/](http://www.opentohope.com/)

2) **Jewish Board for Family Counseling and Services**

[jbfcs.org/programs-services/jewish-community-services-2/shira-ruskay-center/bereavement-support/](http://jbfcs.org/programs-services/jewish-community-services-2/shira-ruskay-center/bereavement-support/)

212.632.4608 or [info@shiraruskay.org](mailto:info@shiraruskay.org)

We offer bereavement support groups that are individualized for specific types of loss. Our groups include participants with similar losses such as individuals who have lost spouses, parents, children, and other loved ones. We attempt to group participants of similar age. Our eight-week groups are co-lead by a Social Worker and a Rabbi, and offered through the year.

Parents Who Lost an Adult Child: Wednesdays: October 29, November 26, December 17\*

Parents Who Lost a Young Adult Child: Wednesdays: October 18, November 15, December 20.

3) **Calvary Hospital Bereavement Groups**

[www.calvaryhospital.org/site/pp.asp?c=ktJUU9MPIsE&b=3304883](http://www.calvaryhospital.org/site/pp.asp?c=ktJUU9MPIsE&b=3304883)

To make an appointment, please e-mail [lpappalardi@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:lpappalardi@calvaryhospital.org) or call (718) 518-2173

Calvary Hospital provides bereavement support for adults who have lost loved ones at Calvary Hospital or Calvary@Home, and those from the community at large who have lost someone because of illness, accidents, violence, or any other cause. Groups are offered in the Bronx and Brooklyn. If you would like to attend any of the groups, you must first meet with one of the group facilitators **before** attending your first session.

4) **Compassionate Friends**

[www.compassionatefriendsnyc.org](http://www.compassionatefriendsnyc.org)

212.217.9647

Assists families coping with grief following the death of a child of any age

### Names of local parents who have lost loved ones and are interested in reaching out to other parents who have lost loved ones:

(Check with them about whether they would like to be included)