



The Office of the Child Advocate

The Office of the Child Advocate is an independent state agency responsible for protecting the legal rights and interest of children in state care. These rights include, but are not limited to, a child's right to appropriate placement, healthcare and education, and to be treated with dignity and respect. Please contact our office with any questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Griffith".

Jennifer Griffith, Esq.
Child Advocate

CONTACT

Please call our office to obtain more information on applying for Victim Compensation for a child. The Office of the Child Advocate assists with the process; however, we do not determine eligibility. Our Case Management Coordinator will assist with your application and questions. An attorney in our office will represent you during the application period.

Grants Manager
Claudia DeCesare

Case Management Coordinator
Narda Gomez

Attorney
Diana Robbins

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www.child-advocate.ri.gov



Project
Victim
Services

The Office of the Child Advocate

Crime Victim Compensation Program

If you or a loved one is the victim of a violent crime, you may be eligible for Rhode Island's Victim Compensation Fund. The purpose of this program is to alleviate financial burdens related to the crime. The CVCP provides up to \$25,000.00 in reimbursement for expenses related to violent crime, including:

- Medical, dental, and counseling expenses
- Relocation expenses
- Funeral and related expenses
- Crime scene cleaning
- Loss of earning

Requirements

- Crime must occur in Rhode Island
- Crime must be reported to police within fifteen days
- You must cooperate with police
- You must apply within three years of the crime, however there is an exception for minors

For More Information:

<http://www.treasury.ri.gov/>

How We Can Help

Project Victim Services has staff who are dedicated to identifying children who may be eligible for Victim Compensation.

- Staff work with the DCYF, and Families, police departments, hospital, and local providers to identify child victims of violent crimes, abuse, children who witness domestic violence, or victims of sex trafficking
- Staff contact the families, social workers, or the child directly to inform of their rights
- Staff assist in filling out the application and sending the information to the Office of the General Treasurer
- Staff notifies the child and their families if they are approved for Victim Compensation and explain the process of submitting for reimbursement
- Staff remain available for follow-up questions or concerns after the child is approved



Support Services

- Our office provides all child victims and their families with a Community Service Agency list to assist in identifying appropriate services in their area
- If you know of a child who is a victim of physical or sexual abuse, a child who has witnessed domestic violence, or a child who is a victim of sex trafficking, please contact your local police department and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families

CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE

1 (800) RI-CHILD

1 (800) 742-4452

