


# COMMUNITY HEALING RESOURCES

## Impact in our neighborhoods

### [Join the Mural Project](#)

*In Search of the Mustard Seed* is a mural project connecting Southwest Philly through workshops to heal gun violence trauma through community building and art-making. Connect with us to stay involved and connected to this and other upcoming programming. Sponsored by Mural Arts Philadelphia, the City of Philadelphia Office of Violence Prevention and the Bianca Nikol Roberson Memorial Foundation.

Contact [corin.wilson@muralarts.org](mailto:corin.wilson@muralarts.org) for more information.  Mural Arts Philadelphia

## Speakers through NoGunZone Instagram partnership

### [Bianca Nikol Roberson Memorial Foundation](#)

Southwest Philly organization founded by the father of Bianca Nikol Roberson, a young woman tragically lost to gun violence. “Bianca Roberson's life was not lived in vain. Bianca was a generous spirit, and in the same vein, we envision sharing her generous spirit with other youth. The vision of this foundation is to honor her legacy by actively being involved in the community.”

### [NOMO and Mr. Rickey Duncan](#)

Southwest Philly based organization for second chances for youth through jobs and other opportunities.

Instead of getting stuck on problems and problem prevention, we move to nurturing positive outcomes; we focus on what young people need to thrive.

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

[https://www.instagram.com/nomo\\_pafact/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/nomo_pafact/?hl=en)

### [Serita Lewis](#)

West Philly based gun violence and youth activist and Founder of [UrbnSEEK](#).

## [CONNECT WITH COUNCILMEMBER KENYATTA JOHNSON](#)

Councilmember Kenyatta Johnson  
Email: [kenyatta.johnson@phila.gov](mailto:kenyatta.johnson@phila.gov)  
City Hall, Room 580  
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(215) 686-3412, (215) 686-3413  
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## [Mothers United By Angels](#)

Founder, Felicia Pendelton  
[@mothersunitedbyangels](#)  
Community Organization connecting with mothers who have lost children to gun violence in Philadelphia.

## [Philly Wonder Woman](#)

"I am just a woman who has decided to dedicate my life to help the youth & young adults , I am PhillyWonderwoman"

## [Sergio Cruel](#)

[@sergiocrueltv](#)  
 TV Host (Deeper Than Journalism)  
 From Chasing News (Fox 29 & Fox 5 NY)  
 MMJ for FOX 29  
[linktr.ee/sergiocrueltv](http://linktr.ee/sergiocrueltv)

# Mindfulness

## [Philly's Big Breath](#)

Let's take a breath TOGETHER, and take a stand against trauma. Philly's Big Breath encourages everyone, especially Black and Brown millennials, to take a big deep breath as a very personal act of trauma healing and as a public proclamation that we will fight to protect our right to heal.

## [Guided Meditation for Grief](#)

If you're struggling with this emotion or if you're grieving and it's become overwhelming, a guided meditation practice for grief can help.

## [Black Lives Matter Meditation](#)

A 17 minute guided meditation using mindfulness, affirmation, and metta (loving-kindness).

## Philly Gun Violence Resource List

*This list was compiled by WHYY's [Billy Penn](#) and is released for public use by other media organizations or anyone else. Have a resource you think we should add? [Let us know](#).*

### To discuss or report a violent crime

Philadelphia Mobile Emergency Team: (215) 685-6440  
West/Southwest Victim Services Program: (215) 748-7780  
Center City Crime Victim Services: 215-665-9680  
Northeast Victim Services: (215) 332-3888  
Northwest Victim Services: (215) 438-4410  
Victim Services of South Philadelphia: (215) 551-3360  
East Division Crime Victim Services (Concilio and Congreso): (215) 426-4810

### For survivors and loved ones

[Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia \(AVP\)](#): (215) 567-6776  
Philadelphia County Victim Services: (215) 686-8027  
Philadelphia County Juvenile Victim Services: 215-686-7682  
[Healing Hurt People](#): (215) 762-1177  
Philly's [Office of Violence Prevention](#): (215) 686-0789  
[Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence](#): (267) 233-4387  
[Pennsylvania Crime Victim Compensation](#): (800) 233-2339  
[The Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly](#): 215-545-5728  
[Pennsylvania Health Law Project](#): 800-274-3258

The federal [Victims of Crime Act](#) mandates that certain services are available to people who've personally suffered a violent crime, or those who have lost a loved one that way. There are victims services organizations all over the city that can [help distribute these resources](#) — from counseling services to legal help to reimbursement of funeral costs.

A Drexel violence intervention program, Healing Hurt People offers free case management support for people who've experienced a traumatic event — including resources like health care, housing, food and advocacy at school. There's also a mobile therapy program and peer support for fellow young adults who survived violence.

After a violent crime, the city's Office of Violence Prevention deploys community crisis intervention teams, who help neighbors and assist police in their investigation. The OVP also doles out grants to [community anti-violence programs](#).

The Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence is a network of community members trained to support—and lead—responses to stress, trauma, loss, and violence within their own communities.

Pennsylvania's [Crime Victim Compensation Program](#) (VCAP) provides refunds for counseling services to victims, witnesses and close family members. The state picks up the tab, including insurance co-pays, or part of the full bill if no insurance.

Victims and witnesses 60 years of age or older can reach out to CARIE, [the Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly](#), which has a victim advocacy program that provides free consulting, court accompaniment, education regarding victim rights. It will also repair external doors, windows and locks to secure victimized seniors in their homes at no charge.

Statewide nonprofit [Pennsylvania Health Law Project](#) offers free legal services via its VOCA (Victim of Crime Act) Program, helping people injured by gun violence (or other crimes) get health insurance via Medicaid to treat physical and mental injuries.

## For families

AVP's hotline for families of murder victims: (215) 686-8033

[Mothers in Charge](#): (215) 228-1718

[EMIR Healing Center](#) in East Germantown: (215) 848-4068

[Operation Save Our City](#): (856) 745-6045

Mothers in Charge is a national organization founded in Philadelphia by Dorothy Johnson-Speight, who lost her son to gun violence. This group of impassioned mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and loved ones can help you take steps to cope with tragedy. EMIR Healing Center was founded by a grieving parent to provide support after community trauma. After a violent crime, members will visit a block, school or individual person to offer healing services. You can also reach out for domestic violence resources.

Based in Fairhill, Operation Save Our City supports to the families of victims of violent crime. Founder Rosalind Pichardo helps arrange public demonstrations and vigils to generate attention for cold cases.

## For kids

[Youth Empowerment for Advancement Hangout \(YEAH\)](#): (267) 469-3002

[Urban Youth Leadership Academy](#): (215) 204-8917

[Uplift Center for Grieving Children](#): (267) 437-3123

YEAH offers after-school programming in West Philly, including targeted instruction to help kids learn peer mediation and conflict resolution skills. There's also a free food bank

Run by Juwan Bennett and headquartered at Temple University, the Urban Youth Leadership Academy matches middle school students with college-aged and early-career mentors who help them complete a service project.

The Uplift Center for Grieving Children offers in-school grief support groups — plus services for children and their caregivers at six locations in the city: East Falls, West Philly, South Philly, the lower Northeast, Center City and North Philly (Lenfest Center).

## For resources around suicide

Philadelphia Suicide and Crisis Center: (215) 686-4420

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

[My Brother's Keeper \(MBK Cares\)](#): (267) 580-9440

[Donovan Williams Memorial Foundation](#): (215) 834-9339

[The Philadelphia Suicide Prevention Task Force](#): philadelphiasptf@phila.gov

MBK Cares runs regular community events out of Cobbs Creek recreation center. They'll welcome you into an existing network of support, helping you find counseling and cope with hardships like bullying.

The Donovan Williams Memorial Foundation is the place to go if you'd like to find a supportive community rooted in sports. The runs a basketball league to promote sportsmanship, foster social skills and educate youth on suicide prevention.

The city's Suicide Prevention Task Force operates five regular support groups all over the city for people who have lost a loved one to suicide.

## For resources around domestic/intimate partner violence

[Philadelphia Domestic Violence Hotline](#): (866) 723-3014

[Lutheran Settlement House](#): (215) 426-8610

[Congreso](#): (215) 763-8870

[Women Against Abuse](#): (215) 386-1280

Fishtown's Lutheran Settlement House is designed to support survivors of domestic violence in any way they might need — with counseling services and programs for seniors, caregivers and people experiencing homelessness.

Congreso offers bilingual education and services for people who are dealing with domestic violence. The goal: to increase awareness and prevent domestic violence, and to connect survivors to resources.

Women Against Abuse boasts tons of wraparound services, from counseling to housing to legal help and programs for LGBTQ people experiencing intimate partner violence.

## More counseling services

[The Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia](#): (215) 567-6776

The Anti-Violence partnership offers many services. There's a counseling center, plus resources for kids, victims of intra-family homicide, and people whose family members have been murdered.

Cost is often a roadblock to folks obtaining mental health services. Luckily, Philly offers a ton of free or affordable options. [Check this list for various options](#).

## Local Neighborhood Victims' Groups

If you or someone you know has been the victim of violent crime, please reach out to your local neighborhood victim services program. Services provided to victims may include, but are not limited to, courtroom advocacy, financial assistance, counseling, and providing referrals for support.

- [Center City Crime Victim Services](#), 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 320, 215-665-9680
- [Northwest Victim Services](#), 6023 Germantown Avenue, 215-438-4410
- [North Central Victim Services](#), 1538 Cecil B. Moore Avenue, 215-763-3280

- Northeast Victim Services, 8014 Castor Avenue, 215-332-3888
- [Victim/Witness Services of South Philadelphia](#), 1426 S. 12th Street, 215-551-3360
- [West/Southwest Victim Services](#), 5548 Chestnut Street Suite 2, 215-748-7780
- Philadelphia Police Department, 750 Race Street, 215-686-8477

### **Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence (NNRV)**

A program under the City's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services, the NNRV is a neighbor-driven network of Philadelphians who are called on to support communities after violent traumatic incidents. Network members, also known as Acute Trauma Responders, are trained in a community-based trauma intervention model, which taps into social connections to foster healthy coping. These supportive interventions are meant to decrease stress experienced after violence, to increase social cohesion, and to bolster individual and community functioning. Responders are trained in post-traumatic stress disorder management (PTSM).

**[For more information about NNRV, or to become an Acute Trauma Responder, visit the network's website.](#)**

### **Philadelphia Coalition for Victim Advocacy (PCVA)**

The PCVA provides information about direct services, advocacy, and assistance to victims and witnesses of crime in Philadelphia.

### **Every Murder Is Real (EMIR)**

EMIR Philly provides family and friends support services, assistance with victims' compensation forms, education about navigating the criminal justice system, in-court support, and other advocacy and assistance.

### **Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency**

A state agency, PCCD ensures that victims of crime receive the assistance and support they deserve, including through the Victims Compensation Assistance Program.

### **Pennsylvania Office of the Victim Advocate (OVA)**

The state's OVA provides information, training, and other resources for victims of crime, including allowing victims to register for notifications and updates about parole or release of offenders as permitted by law.