



**DENVER VICTIM SERVICES  
AGENCY DIRECTORY  
2022**

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## **Alliance to Lead Impact in Global Human Trafficking (ALIGHT)**

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### **MISSION**

Alliance to Lead Impact in Global Human Trafficking (ALIGHT) was started to unlock a fresh start for the refugees, single mothers, runaway teens and other vulnerable populations who are human trafficking survivors. ALIGHT believes all of us must make sure that these individuals can break the cycle of vulnerability and be able to fully and equally re-integrate into our society.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

ALIGHT is dedicated to unlocking a fresh start for human trafficking victims and survivors. Established as a Denver-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2015, ALIGHT empowers victims and survivors of human trafficking to be free of exploitation and to thrive by increasing access to justice for individuals regardless of age, gender, nationality, or type of trafficking. Since 2017, ALIGHT has bridged the gap between victims and the legal community in Denver County with an app platform that enables the matching of victims' specific and urgent requests with legal expertise through a trauma-informed, victim-centric, and holistic process. ALIGHT's partnership structure enhances the capacity of existing community efforts with access to our additional legal services, while also leveraging essential, on-the-ground support that local partners offer victims who are engaging with the legal system.

Having pioneered the appropriate use of a technology solution on the complex problem of human trafficking, ALIGHT's work represents leadership in the field. In February 2020, the American Bar Association (ABA) recognized the technology-based model that ALIGHT has established in Colorado and promoted this model nationally via passing Resolution 113 and recognizing ALIGHT as the pioneer in their report.

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## **Asian Pacific Development Center**

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### **MISSION**

Asian Pacific Development Center (APDC) is powered by its rich heritage of Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) advocacy and exists today to serve and support all immigrant and refugee communities with a whole health, community-based engagement approach through health, education, and advocacy.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

APDC is a community-based, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1980 to serve the needs of a growing population of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander residents throughout Colorado. APDC has extensive experience in working with immigrants and refugee communities from all different ethnicities. Their integrated system of care enables them to provide a variety of services for victims of crimes, thus empowering them to rebuild their lives. APDC's victim advocates, because of their cultural competency and education, can offer victims emotional, physical, and limited economic support based on their individual needs. Their services do not end at the conclusion of the legal process as they continue to empower each victim of crime to stimulate personal growth and sustain a healthy lifestyle.

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## The Blue Bench

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### MISSION

The Blue Bench's mission is to eliminate sexual assault and diminish the impact it has on individuals, their loved ones and the community through comprehensive issue advocacy, prevention, and care.

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The organization provides group and individual therapy (for individuals 13+), case management, post-conviction victim advocacy, operates a 24/7 sexual assault hotline, and has an extensive sexual assault prevention program to decrease future incidences of sexual assault. The Blue Bench is the only organization in the Metro-Denver area that offers comprehensive services to support victims of sexual violence from all gender identities, ages 13 and older, at low or no-cost to the clients or to taxpayers.

Prevention is a critical approach in realizing the organization's mission. The organization's "Pathway to Prevention" (PtP) programs educate, empower, and engage participants across the lifespan, from young children to older adults, because sexual violence impacts people of genders, sexual orientations, and all ages. The content and dissemination methods of the prevention and education programs are driven by the most up-to-date research in the field of sexual violence prevention. Blue Bench's programs-based on substantial research indicating effecting prevention strategies (NSVRC,2014)- are theory driven, multi-session, utilize varied teaching styles, foster positive relationships, and are tailored to ensure culturally responsive content. Collaboration with schools, parent groups, youth educators, service providers, law enforcement, and other community organizations is integral to the organization approach. These program offerings reach middle and high school students and educators, youth serving organizations, universities, community organizations, business, prisons and detention centers, and parent and family groups.

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## **The Center for Trauma & Resilience (Former VALE Grantee)**

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### **MISSION**

The Center for Trauma & Resilience provides culturally and linguistically responsive programs, health promotion and crime prevention education.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

The Center for Trauma & Resilience (CTR) was created in 1987 to provide a single point of entry for victims of crime in Denver, with each individual receiving trauma-informed wraparound services that promote healing, safety, justice and restitution. CTR addresses the root causes of behavioral and physical health concerns by utilizing trauma-informed and culturally responsive interventions that not only address the acute response to violence, but also speak to the years of untreated historical trauma and its impact on the family unit, the community, and the person. In its 34-year history, CTR has provided services to over 220,000 individuals affected by trauma. The agency's name is reflective of the belief that survivors are ultimately resilient when provided with culturally responsive interventions that meet them where they are in their path to recovery. CTR serves all survivors of violence, including survivors of homicide, domestic violence, child physical and sexual abuse, sexual assault, elder abuse, human trafficking, suicide, and victims of mass violence. CTR provides services to victims of crime at no cost. CTR operates 24/7, initiating and/or coordinating victims' services and advocating for victims' rights. CTR strives to reduce health inequities caused by trauma and other social health determinants, including language barriers, cultural barriers, income, disability, and immigration status. Clinical staff, hotline counselors and interns work to address the emotional and physical needs of survivors, stabilize victims following a crime, assist with navigating the criminal justice system, and assure safety and security, all while fostering self-respect and self-sufficiency. Services are offered on-site, in the home, or in community-based settings, at no cost, and by a culturally and linguistically diverse staff, with support from a team of over 150 professional language interpreters.

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## Central Visitation Program

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### MISSION

Central Visitation Program's mission is to enhance relationships between children and parents of low-income families by providing supervised visitation, exchanges, and parenting support.

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

Central Visitation Program (CVP) has been in operation since 1993 and is a low fee supervised visitation program that provides a safe and comfortable environment in which children and non-residential parents may visit. The parenting time is supervised by volunteers and allows children the opportunity to develop a meaningful relationship with the non-residential parent that might not otherwise be possible. CVP strives to provide a safe environment for both the child and the residential parent that may be a victim of crime. Central Visitation Program (CVP) offers many services to assist families in being able to grow their healthy relationships. CVP offers supervised visits and safe exchanges at slide scale rates based on our client's income. CVP believes that all families should have the opportunity to see their children and does everything in its ability to allow and promote this philosophy. CVP ensures a safe environment for its families by enforcing our policies and encouraging an open line of communication with our clients. CVP also assists parents in the child welfare system. CVP provides child welfare supervised visits for clients referred by various Colorado counties' child welfare systems. Additionally, CVP offers free parenting classes, and is constantly growing the list of classes with the hope that our free education can help parents grow their relationships with their children. CVP's newly renovated Denver Headquarters office is open Sunday through Thursday.

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## **Child Advocates - Denver CASA**

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### **MISSION**

Child Advocates – Denver CASA advocates for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect by training diverse volunteers who create opportunities for children, youth, and families to thrive.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

Since 1995, Child Advocates – Denver CASA has supported the most vulnerable children and youth in Denver County by providing highly-trained CASA Volunteers to advocate on their behalf. Based on the nationwide CASA program and adhering to its best practices, Denver CASA serves children and youth who have been victims of abuse, neglect or both and are in the child welfare system and under the jurisdiction of the Denver Juvenile Court. In Colorado, only CASA programs are authorized to provide this service and do so at no cost to the court, social service agency, or the municipality. The duties and responsibilities are outlined in Colorado state statute C.R.S.§19-1-201 et seq. of the Colorado Children’s Code. The law explicitly recognizes that, “the work of community volunteers has been proven to be effective in addressing the needs of children. Partnerships between guardian ad litem (court-appointed youth attorneys) and community volunteers can enhance the quality of representation for children.” In addition, the judicial officers recognize the importance of an additional set of eyes and ears on the children they are seeing in their courtrooms. Denver CASA is recognized by judges and other case professionals as an invaluable partner. Because there are a limited number of CASA Volunteers, the organization works with the Department of Human Services and the Court to identify children who are in the most need of an advocate. Many times, these cases are the most difficult since previous family interventions have not been successful. The organization does not support children who are not in the child welfare system, and the identification of eligible children is by review of all dependency and neglect petitions filed in Denver Juvenile Court.

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## **Colorado Legal Services**

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### **MISSION**

Colorado Legal Services (CLS) is a non-profit providing, if eligible, free legal advice, clinics and representation to low-income Coloradans and seniors. CLS' mission is to provide the highest quality legal representation for as many low-income persons and members of vulnerable populations in Colorado as possible through both basic legal services work and a host of innovative projects.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

CLS is a statewide provider of free civil legal services to low-income individuals and seniors in Colorado. CLS has operated in Colorado since 1999, and has 90 years prior experience as separate legal aid agencies. CLS' staff includes approximately 70 attorneys and 30 paralegals in thirteen offices statewide. Legal problems handled by CLS include: domestic relations, landlord/tenant, consumer issues (debt collection and foreclosure), immigration and public benefits, disability, unemployment, and health care.

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## **Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance**

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### **MISSION**

The Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA) is committed to fairness and healing for crime victims, their families and communities through leadership, education and advocacy. By operating in an inclusive and compassionate manner, COVA creates solutions and positive changes. COVA's vision is to be recognized as a national leader in building a collaborative environment where crime victims are given the opportunity to heal and restore balance to their lives.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

COVA provides yearly training statewide on the Victim Rights Act, Cultural Considerations, Vicarious Trauma, Human Trafficking, and other topics relevant to professionals who provide victim services. Additionally, COVA sponsors one of the largest victim services conferences in the country. Basic and advanced Crime Victim Assistance Academy training programs are also provided, as well as monitoring of state and federal legislation affecting crime victims and crime victim services. COVA administers the Statewide Victim Emergency Fund, a fund of last resort, which provides emergency financial assistance to qualifying crime victims in Colorado. This agency publishes print and electronic newsletters and maintains a website that includes an extensive victim services directory and acts as a clearinghouse for jobs in the field. When requested, COVA also responds to and assists communities that have experienced a mass tragedy. New programs include the Spanish Speaking Victim Outreach Program, which is coordinated with community leaders in the Westwood neighborhood of Denver, and the High-Risk Victim Offender Dialogue Program, which provides victim-centered and victim-initiated face-to-face meetings between crime victims/survivors and the offenders in violent criminal cases who are incarcerated in the Colorado Department of Corrections or Colorado Division of Youth Services. Finally, COVA developed, manages and continues to expand a nationally recognized Victim Services Intern Program as well as a program dedicated to serving victims of human trafficking.

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## **Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment**

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### **MISSION**

Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment's (DOVE) mission is to provide culturally accessible services that empower and offer hope to deaf and hard of hearing individuals who experience abuse.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

DOVE is a 501(c)3 nonprofit established in 2000. With the support of DOVE's Board of Directors, our organization is dedicated to providing advocacy services for Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, or Hard of Hearing (DDBDDHH) victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other forms of abuse in Colorado. DOVE staff are available 24/7 via our hotline (303-831-7874).

DOVE works with DDBDDHH survivors to ensure victim rights are met throughout their journey towards healing. Our priority is communication access and culturally responsive services for DDBDDHH victims/survivors within the legal, medical, and human services systems. DOVE also provides community education and outreach, training and technical assistance for hearing service providers, youth advocacy and prevention, and resiliency services to promote long-term healing for DDBDDHH survivors. We train and coordinate a team of Volunteer Advocates, building a network of trauma-informed community members across Colorado. We aim to build a collaborative community that supports and believes all survivors.

We are aware that victims/survivors have multiple intersectional identities that impact their experience of abuse, and their experience in navigating systems and resources. The DOVE team is committed to daily learning and unpacking of our individual biases, oppressive thinking/behaviors, and microaggressions. We aim to recognize the unique needs of every DDBDDHH victim/survivor, and to respond with warmth, empathy, and an openness to learning.

DOVE staff carry out activities under the umbrella of five programs: Advocacy, Training & Technical Assistance, Community Education & Outreach, Youth Advocacy & Prevention, and Resiliency programs.

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## **Denver Children's Advocacy Center**

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### **MISSION**

The mission of Denver Children's Advocacy Center (DCAC) is to prevent abuse, strengthen families, and restore childhood.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

DCAC was founded in 1995 in response to identified gaps in existing systems serving child victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence and the need for a centralized location for children to receive forensic interviews, mental health assessments, treatments, and medical exams. DCAC assembled a multidisciplinary team (MDT) of first responders to child abuse reports in 2004 to minimize the number of times children must revisit a traumatic event, the places they are taken to do so, and the re-traumatization previously prevalent throughout. The MDT includes Denver Health and the Denver Police Department, District Attorney's Office, and Department of Human Services. Acknowledging the multiple, intersecting factors contributing to and exacerbating child abuse and domestic violence, DCAC expanded its services to include community-wide prevention and education, early intervention through community partnerships, and professional training.

Serving fewer than 300 children annually in its early days, DCAC has spent the last 26 years building its reputation as a trusted resource for high-risk families and children with histories of complex trauma. A testament to its continued growth, DCAC now serves more than 9,000 children and families annually, half of whom receive services in languages other than English. DCAC's programs are provided along a continuum care and include:

- **Community Outreach and Prevention: Keeping Children Safe** - DCAC partners with public schools, early learning centers, and in-home childcare providers in under-resourced neighborhoods to teach prevention and promote children's healthy social-emotional development.
- **Rapid Response: Immediate Support for Child Victims** - Conducting effective forensic interviews is a specialized skill, especially when interviewing very young children. DCAC's rapid response team uses evidence-based practices that support traumatized child victims by eliciting reliable, neutral information that will assist during the investigative process and prosecution of child abuse cases.
- **Treatment & Integrated Services: Helping Families Recover from Trauma** - DCAC combines a compassionate, child-centered approach to therapy with evidence-based interventions to promote healing.

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## **Healing from the Heart**

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### **MISSION**

The mission of Healing from the Heart is to provide effective, research-based counseling practices to individuals who suffer from trauma related incidents such as physical abuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse. By providing these services, Healing from the Heart seeks to give voice to victims and provide a safe environment for victims to begin the healing process.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

Healing from the Heart's belief that high-quality, trauma-focused, mental healthcare should not only be accessible to people who have health insurance or have the means to make out-of-pocket payments, but to all people who are willing to travel the journey of processing and healing. This nonprofit agency is still in the business of helping others find their way for over 20 years. In the beginning, the agency focused on low-income youth and their families but has since embraced treating adults, male and female, as well as older children who are suffering trauma and other life adversities.

Lesly P. Terrance, Executive Director, and Lead Therapist is a leader in using proven-successful Eye-Movement-Desensitization-Reprocessing therapy (EMDR) to treat Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This approach may be beneficial to clients who have severe trauma and have difficulty with other forms of talk therapy. Clients experience relief rather quickly and continue to progress over subsequent sessions.

In 20+ years Healing from the Heart has been a 'go-to' in the community by mentoring, teaching, collaborating and always advocating for marginalized communities i.e., adolescents, LGBTQ, people of color, immigrants, and the poor.

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## **The Initiative**

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### **MISSION**

The Initiative was formed in 1984, with a mission to provide domestic violence/caregiver abuse specific services (the direct service program) and adapted a second program (the outreach program) to address systemic issues of accessibility to victim services for survivors with disabilities.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

The Initiative provides advocacy for persons with disabilities who have experienced abuse. Currently, there are a total of six staff members including the Executive Director, Chief Program Officer, Program Director, Outreach Director, and two full time Victim Advocates who specialize in bilingual and rural victim advocacy. There are also four interns who are trained as victim advocates.

The Initiative utilizes the ACRTI model (Accessible, Culturally Responsive and Trauma Informed) to guide all agency interactions with clients, staff, and the community. All services provided by The Initiative have multi-generational effects and address inter-generational abuse and violence. All services are mobile, available to monolingual Spanish speakers, as well as to victims in rural areas. Additionally, the office- work environment is inclusive and accessible to all regardless of ability, gender/racial/cultural identities, and/or language spoken. The goal of the organization is for all people; staff, volunteers, and clients alike; to feel heard, believed, accepted, and welcomed, as completely as possible. Throughout the current pandemic, The Initiative's staff have strived to link the most vulnerable members of our community to essential services. Advocates are mindful of all necessary COVID 19 precautions, to ensure that victims of abuse, particularly those in the disability community, can have safe and complete access to these essential services, without compromising their (the victims and the staffs) health.

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# **The Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Center**

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## **MISSION**

The Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Center (JAMLAC) seeks justice for people who struggle with poverty and oppression through compassionate civil legal representation in a way that affirms their dignity and strengthens their capacity to positively direct their own lives.

## **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

JAMLAC began in 2006 to address the significant need for legal representation amongst underserved/unserved communities in the greater Denver metropolitan area. As a comprehensive legal aid center, JAMLAC provides direct, culturally sensitive civil legal services to crime victims who are struggling with poverty, particularly for those in vulnerable communities. Through our Juvenile Immigration project, we walk with children who have been abandoned, abused, or neglected through the whole immigration process. JAMLAC's team of six attorneys, nine support staff, and many volunteers are well-equipped and qualified to serve victims from diverse communities. Staff members advocate for clients' rights in a way that affirms their dignity and strengthens their capacity to positively direct their own lives.

JAMLAC's main office is in Denver. JAMLAC's areas of direct services for victims in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District include:

- Full civil legal representation, primarily for family law and immigration matters
- Holistic advocacy, including assistance, information, support, and referrals to partnering agencies that offer services beyond legal needs
- Legal workshops to inform and educate underserved communities on legal options and their legal rights
- One-on-one legal consultations from volunteer attorneys at 11 triage clinics throughout metro Denver (5 of which are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> JD).

JAMLAC addresses injustice and help clients overcome abusive situations by means of legal action, which has an enormously positive impact on client's lives, their children, and others in the community. With legal assistance, our clients are empowered, allowing them to move to a safer, more self-sufficient, and healthier life.

In July 2021, JAMLAC became an independent 501(c)(3) organization. JAMLAC was a previously a program of Mile High Ministries and continues to have a close relationship.

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## **Maria Droste Counseling Center**

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### **MISSION**

Maria Droste Counseling Center (MDCC) is a Denver-based nonprofit mental health service organization comprised of mental health professionals, learners and volunteers who are passionate about community, learning, and service. Their mission is to provide accessible and professional counseling services regardless of ability to pay, serving those seeking healthier lives.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

MDCC was founded in 1989 to bridge the gaps in available behavioral health care for systemically marginalized, oppressed, and economically disadvantaged populations in Denver. Over the last 32 years, MDCC has improved the lives of tens of thousands of individuals and families by helping them overcome obstacles such as job loss, trauma, poverty, illness, and depression, regardless of their ability to pay for services. Today, MDCC continues to reach members of the community facing the greatest obstacles to care, helping them overcome traumatic events, achieve self-sufficiency, strengthen their family relationships, practice healthy coping mechanisms, and improve their quality of life.

MDCC is at the forefront of the changing behavioral health care landscape and is committed to providing and facilitating access to affordable counseling by:

- Offering counseling services for the uninsured, underinsured, and working poor, ensuring that no one is turned away due to cost
- Raising awareness of the importance of mental health and substance misuse disorder services among those in need and the community at large
- Providing access to behavioral health services to communities with the highest needs
- Training future professionals in mental and behavioral health care through hands-on supervision

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, MDCC launched telehealth services across all programs. This has improved the cost-effectiveness of MDCC's service model, allowed the organization to leverage additional revenue sources, and expanded clients' access to care by removing barriers such as time and transportation.

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## **Mothers Against Drunk Driving**

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### **MISSION**

The mission of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is to end drunk driving, help fight drugged driving, support the victims of these violent crimes, and prevent underage drinking.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

MADD is an organization of victim/survivors and supporters, determined to make a difference in the lives of those victimized by drunk and drugged driving crashes. MADD's services are for all those victimized by the crime of drunk and drugged driving, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age, or relationship with the victim/survivor. All victim services are provided at no charge to the victim/survivors, and all victim services are provided for as long as the victim/survivor needs them.

While the local police departments and District Attorney's offices offer exemplary victim advocate services, they are limited in the length of time they offer support and the types of support they can provide. MADD Victim Services is unique in that it provides a continuum of services for life and at no charge to the victim/survivors. MADD Victim Services continues support for victim/survivors and their families as long as they request help. No timeline can be imposed on grief or injury; therefore, MADD offers victim services for days, weeks, or years after the initial crash.

MADD Colorado Victim Services provides services for crime victims under the Victim Rights Amendment (VRA). Those crimes include vehicular homicide, vehicular assault, careless driving resulting in death, child abuse, and leaving the scene of a crash resulting in death or serious bodily injury. In addition, MADD Victim Services provides victim services to crime victims who are not included under the Victim Rights Amendment such as victims of driving under the influence, driving while ability impaired, careless driving resulting in serious bodily injury, reckless driving resulting in death or serious bodily injury, and leaving the scene of a crash.

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## **Muslim Family Services of Colorado**

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### **MISSION**

The mission of Muslim Family Services (MFS) is to help individuals and families be safe, secure, and self-reliant through services, advocacy, and education.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

Muslim Family Services of Colorado (MFS) is a unique nonprofit organization that was founded by a group of dedicated Muslim women dating back to the 1990s. The group was committed to respond to the social and legal issues facing the diverse and growing Colorado Muslim community. Muslim Family Services of Colorado has been serving victims of crime for 23 years and targets the Muslim population because of its marginal position in society in general, which often results in Muslims being underserved in victim services. MFS has expertise in a culture-based approach to victim services, which enables them to address the culturally specific needs of the diverse Muslim population in Colorado. This agency also serves any population that seeks our services across racial/cultural groups. Their victim advocacy program emphasizes culturally responsive service delivery that also addresses the cultural particularities of each victim within the context of their victimization. In addition to crisis counseling, case management, advocacy, referrals, services also include emergency relief (food, clothing, housing assistance and referrals), individual and family counseling, interpretation needs, immigrant and refugee integration, etc. Their vision is equity and inclusion for Muslims in the delivery of victim services.

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## **PeaceWorks, Inc.**

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### **MISSION**

PeaceWorks, Inc.'s mission is to advocate for ALL survivors, their children and companion animals, of intimate partner violence/abuse, sexual assault, sex trafficking, teen dating violence and stalking. PeaceWorks provides inclusive services for ALL, including crisis intervention, emergency shelter, culturally responsive and trauma informed advocacy, and local prevention and education to create social change.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

PeaceWorks is a non-profit 501(c)3 providing assistance for survivors of relationship violence/abuse: intimate partner violence (IPV), domestic violence, teen dating violence and stalking; sex trafficking and sexual assault outside of relationship violence. PeaceWorks owns and operates Safe Shelter, a temporary secure and confidential home for individuals, families and pets that are experiencing IPV. Since its founding in 1986, PeaceWorks, Inc. has helped thousands of individuals and families rebuild their lives in the aftermath of IPV, sexual assault, stalking, and other relationship crimes.

PeaceWorks, Inc.'s current programs include:

- 24/7 Crisis Assistance Voice/Text Line
- Emergency Safe Shelter
- Hotel Vouchers & Relocation Assistance
- SafePets Program
- Community Education and Awareness
- Empowerment and Wellness
- Victim Advocacy
- Mobile Advocacy
- Resource and Wellness Line
- Volunteer Program

PeaceWorks, Inc. is 1 of 10 dual programs in Colorado offering services to both sexual assault and relationship violence survivors, and 1 of 4 shelters in the state that allows pets: domesticated, exotic, and livestock, to be sheltered with their families. With 39% of survivors coming from metro Denver, another 39% come from our local communities of Jefferson, Park and Clear Creek counties.

### **AGENCY CONTACTS**

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## **Project PAVE**

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### **MISSION**

Project PAVE has a mission of ending violence by empowering youth to build healthy relationships.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

Established in 1986 in response to a number of violent incidents in the Denver area, community leaders came together to create a framework for intervening early in the lives of youth and families exposed to relationship violence and to promote alternatives to violence in youth relationships. PAVE has a long history of providing innovative, evidence-based, and culturally responsive services for survivors and their families in the community. It is the promise of the mission that youth who receive services and education are less likely to continue cycles of violence later in life. Project PAVE's legacy bears witness to the realization of their mission in the lives of thousands of participants.

PAVE's Early Intervention Services include therapy, group support, crisis intervention, service coordination, and advocacy and are provided in the community to ensure ease of access. Our approach allows PAVE to reach youth survivors with individualized support, reduce barriers of access, ensure successful system navigation, and increase skills necessary for growth and healing from trauma.

PAVE's Violence Prevention Education programs help youth develop healthy relationship skills, practice healthy self-expression, break down gender stereotypes, build skills to end abusive cycles, and provide strategies for safe ways to intervene in unhealthy relationships of peers or family members.

PAVE is well-established and well-connected to the victim services and youth services community in the Denver Metro area and works in close partnership with Denver Public Schools to deliver services in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District.

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## **Project Safeguard**

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### **MISSION**

Project Safeguard's mission is to empower and partner with people who have experienced gender-based violence, helping them to navigate a course of survivor-driven justice through expert, trauma-informed legal advocacy and representation.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

Project Safeguard is a non-profit organization committed to helping end gender-based violence through safety planning, legal advocacy, direct court support and attorney services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, ensuring their safety and survival. Founded in 1984, Project Safeguard provides services in Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, and Denver counties to assist victims and survivors of gender-based violence (including, but not limited to, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking) who wish to use the civil legal system to increase their safety and build a successful future for themselves and their families.

All of Project Safeguard's services are available in English and Spanish and provided at no cost to the victim. Those who speak a language other than English or Spanish are served through in-person or phone-assisted interpretation.

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## **Rocky Mountain Children’s Law Center**

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### **MISSION**

Rocky Mountain Children’s Law Center (RMCLC) advocates for children and youth, drives systemic reform, and boldly challenges the status quo so that every young person who has experienced trauma or instability has the opportunity to thrive.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

Founded in 1981, RMCLC is Colorado's only nonprofit law firm specifically focused on serving children and youth who have experienced abuse, neglect, other trauma, or instability. Unfortunately, far too often, the needs of children and youth are not naturally met by parents, families, schools, and others, and the barriers these young people then face in achieving safety and stability are best addressed through legal advocacy. Since our founding, our highly skilled legal advocates have expanded their expertise and range of services to meet the ever-evolving needs of young people. As a result of RMCLC's efforts over the last four decades, more than 25,000 of Colorado's most vulnerable children have benefited from the zealous advocacy and passion of their staff.

RMCLC's teams of attorneys and clinical staff provide multidisciplinary civil legal services focused on securing safe, permanent homes for trauma-affected children and youth; ensuring appropriate educational opportunities; and removing barriers to their stability and success. Almost all of those served by RMCLC across program areas qualify as low income and are only able to benefit from legal representation because of our low -fee and pro bono services. RMCLC focuses on helping individual children and families address their current struggles while simultaneously using expertise to drive systemic change so that their communities better support young people and their families in the future.

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## **Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center**

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### **MISSION**

Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center (RMvlc) elevates victim's voices, champions their rights, and transforms the systems impacting them.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

RMvlc is a nonprofit, legal-service organization providing free legal assistance to crime victims. RMvlc has three, multidisciplinary programs, pairing attorneys with advocates to address the holistic legal needs of crime victims. RMvlc's services range from basic information to litigating on behalf of victims during criminal and other legal proceedings related to victimization. The Victim Rights Legal Services program assists by litigating and asserting victims' rights in criminal proceedings. RMvlc routinely files motions to quash subpoenas for privileged information, to uphold the right to be present, and to assert a victim's positions on critical matters. The Legal Information Network of Colorado is leading the way for its creative use of technology, training, and support of advocates and attorneys to address victims' complex civil legal issues arising from victimization. RMvlc's team assists victims in navigating civil legal issues including housing, employment, probate, and more. The Title IX program supports victims of gender-based violence in educational settings from kindergarten through higher education. In these proceedings, the respondent often has an attorney which leaves survivors at greater risk for revictimization while they try to establish safety and access education. RMvlc's team attempts to level the playing field while navigating a system that is skewed toward the perpetrator.

Through all of RMvlc's programs, their team of experts offer consultation & training to prosecutors, victim service providers, and allied professionals on the myriad legal issues stemming from victimization. The vision is to offer support to allied professionals to help elevate skills across the field; ensuring victims have access to accurate and reliable legal information no matter where they connect for support.

RMvlc is frequently contacted by professionals who need support on legal issues so they may provide excellent services to victims. They provide technical assistance which includes research assistance; sample motions on the topic(s); or drafting new motions. RMvlc also assists with complicated issues resulting from the intersection of victimization, trauma, and access to justice.

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## **Rose Andom Center**

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### **MISSION**

The Rose Andom Center improves the lives of domestic violence victims by facilitating better access to services and staff of community organizations and government agencies in a single, safe location.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

The Rose Andom Center opened in Denver in June of 2016, reflecting state-of-the art best practices for FJCs, and becoming the first Family Justice Center in the Rocky Mountain region. Since opening, they have clearly seen the value of improved access to services. Over 6,500 adults and 3,100 children have come through their doors, visiting more than 11,000 times to find resources, support, and rebuild their lives after experiencing violence.

As a public/private partnership, the collaborative model of the Rose Andom Center brings together 7 government and 16 community-based organizations in one building to meet the complex needs of domestic violence victims and their children. Families who experience domestic violence are impacted by housing and food insecurity, exposure to violence both in their home and community, financial insecurity, and physical and mental/behavioral health disparities. Rose Andom Center's centralized intake process helps identify client needs, risk factors, trauma history and other challenges a victim is facing. The scope of partner services at RAC enables victims to better access the help they need, such as safety planning, emergency financial assistance, mental and behavioral health, medical care, parenting support, advocacy, counseling, support groups, legal and case management services, help with protection orders, housing assistance, etc.

The Rose Andom Center is based on providing integrated, holistic services to victims, with well-established partnerships in place.

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## SafeHouse Denver

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### MISSION

SafeHouse Denver's mission is to assist adults, children, and youth in reclaiming their right to a life free from domestic violence.

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

SafeHouse Denver was founded in 1977 as an emergency shelter for women and children fleeing from domestic abuse. In 1993, the non-residential Counseling and Advocacy Center (CAC) was established to provide domestic violence counseling, advocacy, group support and access to critical community resources to victims in need of services but not requiring safe shelter. The Extended Stay Program (ESP), the final program in the full continuum of care, was opened in 2018 to support victims transitioning to stable housing.

Today, SafeHouse Denver offers a full range of services for victims of domestic violence across all ages, socioeconomic statuses, gender identities, abilities, and sexual orientations. SafeHouse Denver's goals are: to provide effective, culturally- appropriate services for adults, children and youth affected by domestic violence; to increase victims' awareness of their rights and options; to provide empowering programs to help victims build safe, self-sufficient lives; and to increase community awareness and prevention of domestic violence. They meet these goals by:

- Helping victims develop safety plans that support and enhance their personal safety strategies
- Expanding victims' knowledge of community resources, help them access and utilize needed resources
- Connecting victims to support networks to make self-identified changes in their lives.

SafeHouse Denver is the only agency in the City and County of Denver that provides both emergency shelter and non- residential counseling and advocacy services to adults, children and youth experiencing domestic violence. We offer individualized, compassionate, and comprehensive services through our core programs:

- an Emergency Shelter that provides safe, confidential housing and basic needs for adults and children
- the Extended Stay Program for victims who are out of immediate crisis but need more time to access housing and resources
- the 24-hour Crisis and Information Line that provides safety planning, crisis intervention, and informed community resource referrals to victims and those helping them
- the non-residential Counseling and Advocacy Center that offers individual and group support for victims who have a safe place to stay
- community education that provides domestic violence presentations and training to area agencies, clubs, companies, and schools

Victims of domestic violence continue to struggle with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Across all programs, victims are requiring more intensive services due to increased exposure to violence, greater trauma, limited resources, and challenging safety planning. SafeHouse Denver has worked hard to provide continuity of services to support victims at such a critical time, while also maintaining safety for victims and staff.

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## **The Salvation Army**

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### **MISSION**

Housing Now asserts that housing is a human right. We partner with households experiencing housing instability in the Denver metro area providing rental support and essential basic needs. We strive to empower all we serve by building resilience while focusing on individual choice. We work to cultivate relationships through strengths-based case management and collaboration with our community partner agencies to provide wrap around care.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

The Salvation Army is committed to help victims of crime recover from victimization including economic abuses and material hardships. The agency utilizes the Housing First model for its Housing Now program, which provides housing stabilization and case management to victims of crime. Housing Now provides supportive housing and other services for individuals or families experiencing homelessness or crisis needs. This includes housing stability services that enable eligible households to maintain or obtain housing, such as housing counseling, case management related to housing stability, outreach to households at-risk of eviction or promotion of housing support programs with external agencies, housing related services for survivors of domestic abuse or human trafficking, and specialized services for individuals with disabilities or seniors that supports their ability to access or maintain housing. The agency also provides legal aid such as legal services or attorney's fees related to eviction proceedings and maintaining housing stability, court-based eviction prevention or eviction diversion programs, and other legal services that help households maintain or obtain housing.

### **AGENCY CONTACTS**

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## Servicios De La Raza

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### MISSION

The mission of Servicios de La Raza is to provide and advocate for culturally responsive, essential human services and opportunities.

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

In 1972, a dozen advocates for Denver's Latino communities came together to form Servicios de La Raza, a bilingual human services organization, to serve Denver's low-income Spanish-speaking populations with the provision of culturally relevant and effective social services. Servicios is dually licensed by the Colorado Office of Behavioral Health to provide mental and substance use disorder services.

Servicios de La Raza's staff consist of a diverse and talented group of employees from the following ethnic backgrounds: Chicano, Latino or Hispanic, Caucasian, Native American, and African American. Because of the value placed on the community, culture, and language, Servicios de La Raza is an integral part of the heart of the Latino community in Denver; a trusted and accessible community resource, and the only organization of its kind in the state of Colorado that delivers such a wide range of services to the Latino community through a culturally and linguistically responsive service model.

For 50 years, Servicios de La Raza has continued to respond to the unmet needs of the most vulnerable members of the Denver community through programs for: youth, victims of intimate partner violence, individuals living with HIV/AIDS, mental health, substance use, health insurance enrollment, parolee reintegration, and basic emergency services for people experiencing crisis situations. Servicios is now the pre-eminent recognized comprehensive health and human services agency addressing the needs of Latinas/os and other underserved and marginalized communities across the Denver metropolitan area.

The VISTAS program has successfully served victims of domestic violence in the 2nd Judicial District since 1991. Servicios has also successfully served victims of general crime since 2015. Servicios provides expertise when it comes to serving the community's monolingual and underserved Latino communities in 2<sup>nd</sup> JD, to also include the immigrant and refugee communities.

Victims of domestic violence and other crimes are able to receive traditional, evidence-based victim services which are further complimented by a large array of free behavioral healthcare and case management services. These services are offered in Spanish and English within one agency. Having these services within one agency, as a "one-stop shop," promotes victim safety and victim confidentiality and removes many traditional barriers to services, such as lack of transportation or primary language spoken.

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## **Streets Hope/ Voluntad**

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### **MISSION**

The mission of Street's Hope/Voluntad is to provide survivor informed, evidence-based services to support and empower survivors of all forms of human trafficking. Street's Hope/Voluntad works to bring awareness and education to the community in the fight against exploitation and human trafficking.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

Street's Hope/Voluntad provides direct services to any victim of all types of human trafficking crimes. The organization, founded in 2007, is a strong voice in the anti-trafficking community and is a leader in providing a powerful model of healing-centered, trauma-informed care and recovery.

Street's Hope's core program, based in Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs is focused in three major areas: 1) providing safe transitional and permanent housing through a federally funded housing program ; 2) Clinical and nonclinical behavioral health support; and 3) ongoing psychosocial education and community building, utilizing individual and group support from others with similar lived experience to facilitate engagement, inclusivity, and increased services utilization. In 2021, Street's Hope/Voluntad served 227 people through its housing and intensive case management program and 24-hour phone line that connects callers to resource referral and mental health support.

To ensure that all program participants are treated with fairness, respect, and dignity, service delivery is trauma-informed and based on harm-reduction principles. Street's Hope/Voluntad is a "one-stop shop" where victims can receive services that address their immediate and long-term needs. Programming is designed to increase self-awareness and build stability, leading to improved wellness and recovery outcomes. These improved outcomes contribute to the overall wellness of the community and reduce the risk of re-exploitation of participants as well as their children and family members, as survivors begin to understand personal, familial, generational and community vulnerabilities and commit to healthier ways of living.

Many current program participants are current victims and witnesses in ongoing human trafficking prosecutions in City and County of Denver courts. Street's Hope/Voluntad works to strengthen these relationships, and support clients who wish to participate in active investigations and prosecutions .

Street's Hope/Voluntad has also expanded its capacity to serve Denver's diverse population by hiring bilingual and bi-cultural staff in peer, clinical and case management roles to better serve Latino clients. The organization has also developed a comprehensive language access plan, ensuring they never have to turn away a non-English speaker; in addition to Spanish speaking staff, Street's Hope/Voluntad has a fully translatable website (to seven languages) and a language line, available to assist staff to meet all service needs.

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## **University of Colorado Denver/The Phoenix Center at Auraria**

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### **MISSION**

The mission of The Phoenix Center at Auraria is to implement campus response services, provide education, and facilitate dialogue related to interpersonal violence in the Auraria community.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

The Phoenix Center at Auraria (PCA) serves students, staff, and faculty associated with University of Colorado Denver, Community College of Denver, and Metropolitan State University Denver. The PCA provides free and confidential advocacy, assistance, and resources to survivors of interpersonal violence (relationship violence, family violence, sexual violence, stalking, and harassment), as well as their friends, families, and concerned others. The Auraria campus consists of approximately 46,600 students and 14,800 faculty and staff. The mission of the PCA is to provide education and comprehensive victim service to ensure survivors may access their particular healing journey, work to mitigate the impact of interpersonal violence on their pursuit of goals, and create a compassionate and prevention focused campus environment.

The PCA advocacy services include emotional support; psychoeducation on violence and trauma; academic advocacy (communication with professors for course flexibility, filing for appeals and reimbursements, assisting with withdrawal/re-enrollment); safety planning; assistance with emergency funding applications (COVA, Victim's Compensation, and school-based); court accompaniment (civil and criminal); assistance reporting to Title IX and/or law enforcement at the survivor's request; breaking a lease; enrolling in the Address Confidentiality Program; and more. Additionally, the PCA offers crisis services through our 24/7 helpline and our online text-chat service. The PCA also provides campus education and training, awareness raising events, and campus policy guidance.

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## Voices of Victims

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### MISSION

The mission of Voices of Victims is to provide post-sentencing support to all victims of violent crime, be a victim advocate, ensure the Colorado Victims Bill of Rights is duly administered, and to provide financial support where necessary, appropriate, and possible to victims.

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

Voices of Victims (VoV) was established in the spring of 2007 as the first state wide non-profit to exclusively provide post sentencing support to victims of violent crime. VoV provides services to prevent the re-victimization of people that are victims of violent crimes in the State of Colorado, more specifically to:

- provide post sentencing support
- be a victim advocate
- ensure the Colorado Victims Bill of Rights is duly administered
- provide financial support where necessary, appropriate, and possible to victims

Voices of Victims provides the following services to crime victims and their families:

- Education – VOV provides education on post sentencing activities and how they will affect a victim.
- Advocacy – VOV will attend various proceedings with family members and be by their side to provide guidance, comfort, and support before and after the proceedings.
- Transportation – VOV can provide transportation to and from hearings to help attend a proceeding.
- Hotel Room – VOV can provide a hotel room if there is sufficient need to allow a person to attend a proceeding.
- Meals – VOV can provide the victims they serve meals on the same day of a hearing if warranted.

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## **WINGS Foundation**

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### **MISSION**

The mission of WINGS Foundation is to break the cycle and heal the wounds of childhood sexual abuse by providing education, advocacy, and support to adult survivors, loved ones, providers, and communities.

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

The WINGS Foundation, Inc. (WINGS) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) agency founded in Denver by and for female survivors of Child Sexual Assault (CSA) and incest. These founding members faced multiple and profound barriers to accessing healing services and wanted to create an agency that could help others who had endured similar experiences. Since 1982, WINGS has evolved in innovative and inclusive ways across the Front Range of Colorado to assist thousands of sexual abuse survivors – men, women and LGBTQI individuals – in recognizing they are not alone and that healing from CSA is possible. Wings welcomes ALL survivors regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation or income level.

The mission of WINGS is achieved through ensuring everyone has access to the resources they need to speak about, heal from, and thrive beyond childhood sexual abuse trauma. We engage adult survivors, loved ones, providers, and community leaders to acknowledge the reality of this trauma and respond with care and compassion.

Here's what that looks like:

- CSA trauma informed education and outreach for survivors, loved ones & professionals
- Customized referrals to therapists and other services
- Therapist-facilitated, peer-led support groups for adult survivors & loved ones
- A new ASCSA CARE Collaborative to ignite system change at the community level

WINGS executive staff, Board of Directors, and Advisory Council consist of dedicated leaders who have made the decision to follow in the footsteps of early founders to break the barrier of stigma in their own lives and in the world by stepping forward on this issue. Many of these leaders have direct lived experience with this issue (or know someone who does) and have bravely acknowledged the shame they felt in order to transform that shame into inspiration for others. The agency's leadership has fully embraced goals for transforming the organization through both a health equity and diversion/equity/inclusivity lens in order to elevate the organization's practices and programming.

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