



NMVC

National Mass Violence Center

Providing Resources to Victims,
Survivors, & Those Who Serve Them

National Mass Violence Center
Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Medical University of South Carolina
67 President Street, MSC 863
Charleston, SC 29425
NMVRC.org

Tips for Community Leaders: Funding & Victims' Compensation

After a mass violence incident (MVI), victims/survivors and/or their families may seek financial compensation for different services. Telling victims about compensation is the responsibility of every individual who provides victim services and works in law enforcement. This resource should also be made available to those who provide medical and counseling services.

- ⇒ Make victim services a part of your disaster-response protocol at the state and local level.
- ⇒ Include Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) trained victim service professionals (VSPs) in all levels of planning and response.
- ⇒ Engage formal and informal networks of agencies and officials who respond to mass violence.
- ⇒ Assemble a team of community leaders and apply for funding and/or grants to cover various costs related to victim services, as well as municipal costs.
- ⇒ Include VSPs, from mental health programs and hospital professionals, local government and law enforcement officials, steering committees of well-known area civic and business leaders, as well as representatives of the community affected.
- ⇒ Include crime victims' compensation information in briefings to the public.
- ⇒ Be aware that victims' compensation programs are payers of last resort. Victims who receive money from other sources may not be eligible for federal or state compensation, or may have their benefits adjusted.
- ⇒ Utilize your VOCA Administrators. They are trained and experienced



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