



## THE MASSACHUSETTS PEER SUPPORT NETWORK

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**Building Partnerships Initiative for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults (BPI)** is a statewide initiative that uses a multidisciplinary team approach to link law enforcement, adult protection, human services, self-advocates and others to address abuse, neglect and crimes committed against persons with a disability and/or older adults.



**The Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC)** mission is to protect adults with disabilities from the abusive acts or omissions of their caregivers through investigation, oversight, public awareness, and prevention.



**Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA)** is an independent state agency governed by the Victim and Witness Assistance Board. MOVA strives to advance victim rights by ensuring all victims and survivors of crime across the Commonwealth are supported and empowered through access to high quality services that are trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and reflective of diverse communities.



### BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS INITIATIVE

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### WHAT IS THE PEER SUPPORT NETWORK?

The Peer Support Network (PSN) is a Massachusetts network created and led by people with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) for people with disabilities who are survivors of sexual violence.

PSN, funded and supported by the Building Partnerships for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults Initiative (BPI), Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC), and the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA), brings together survivors of sexual violence with disabilities to support each other on their paths to healing.

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PSN collaborates with Adult Protective Services (APS), law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates, trauma services, advocacy and others.

### WHAT WE DO

- Raise awareness about the prevalence of sexual violence committed against adults with disabilities
- Collaborate in state and nationally
- Provide awareness of the importance of trauma care
- Provide awareness on the need for accessible services and information Communicate survivors needs
- Assists in creating training curricula for APS, law enforcement, trauma services and others
- Provide services at no cost

### REPORTING ABUSE AND NEGLECT

If you suspect or observe abuse or neglect of a person with a disability, report to the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC). DPPC 24-hour Hotline: 1-800-426-9009. Deaf or Hard of Hearing callers, please use Video Relay Service (VRS) or MassRelay at 711.

DPPC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation or gender identity in the provision of services. This project was (partially) supported by MOVA through state investments, and/or a Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA) grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, and/or the Human Trafficking and Drunk Driving Trust Funds.

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