



# OLR RESEARCH REPORT

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## **ANTI-VIOLENCE ORGANIZATIONS IN CONNECTICUT**

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You asked for a list of groups in Connecticut that organize against violence.

Table 1 below presents a list of several groups whose mission includes advocating or organizing against violence. For each organization, we include a brief description of its mission or work, as well as its website address and phone number. Any direct quotes in the descriptions are taken from the organizations' websites.

Please note that this list is not exhaustive. For example, we include the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc., but do not list separately each of their member organizations. For another example, we do not include groups whose primary focus is advocating for peace in international affairs.

**Table 1: Connecticut Anti-Violence Groups**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Brief Description and Contact Information</b>
Connecticut Against Gun Violence (CAGV)	<p>Founded in 1993, CAGV’s mission “is to identify, develop, and promote campaigns to pass legislation designed to enhance gun safety in Connecticut.” The organization’s work focuses on legislative advocacy.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cagv.org/wp/">http://www.cagv.org/wp/</a></p> <p>(203) 955-1009</p> <p>Another organization, March for Change, describes itself as the grassroots offshoot of CAGV.</p> <p><a href="http://www.marchforchange.org/">http://www.marchforchange.org/</a></p>
Connecticut Against Violence	<p>Connecticut Against Violence states that its mission is “to Bridge the Cultures of Law Enforcement and the Hip-Hop Community. We intend to bring the real truth about gun violence and its negative ramifications as well as bring positive alternatives and opportunities to children and young people in” Connecticut.</p> <p><a href="http://ctagainstviolence.com/">http://ctagainstviolence.com/</a></p> <p>(917) 416-4601</p>
Connecticut Center for Nonviolence	<p>The Connecticut Center for Nonviolence is “dedicated to bringing people from diverse communities together in dialogue and creative expression to explore the root causes of violence and to learn constructive methods of developing and applying alternative solutions.” Its approach follows the philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ctnonviolence.org/">http://www.ctnonviolence.org/</a></p> <p>(860) 567-3441</p>

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Brief Description and Contact Information</b>
Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV)	<p>Founded in 1978, CCADV is a membership organization of the state’s 18 domestic violence service agencies that provide victims with emergency shelter, counseling, court advocacy, and other services. The organization “also works to change social conditions through policy, advocacy, public awareness and community education.”</p> <p><a href="http://www.ctcadv.org/">http://www.ctcadv.org/</a></p> <p>(860) 282-7899; (888) 774-2900 (24-hour hotline)</p>
Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc. (CONNSACS)	<p>CONNSACS is “a statewide coalition of individual sexual assault crisis programs. CONNSACS works to end sexual violence through victim assistance, community education, and public policy advocacy.” Its mission is “to end sexual violence and ensure high quality, comprehensive, and culturally competent sexual assault victim services.”</p> <p><a href="http://www.connsacs.org/">http://www.connsacs.org/</a></p> <p>(860) 282-9881; (888) 999-5545 (24-hour English hotline); (888) 568-8332 (24-hour Spanish hotline)</p>
Mothers United Against Violence	<p>This Hartford-based grassroots organization was founded in 2003. Its mission is to serve as “a voice of hope in the face of violence, drugs, and poverty by providing advocacy by, and education in, the community in the spirit of love and unity.” The organization has “held numerous marches, rallies, vigils and antiviolence presentations” at Hartford schools.</p> <p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/MUAVCT">https://www.facebook.com/MUAVCT</a></p> <p>(860) 461-2403</p>

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Brief Description and Contact Information</b>
Non-Violence Alliance	<p>Based in Middletown, the mission of the Non-Violence Alliance “is to promote non-violent partner relationships, families and communities, and to reduce violence and abuse towards domestic partners and children. We accomplish this goal by educating men about the origins of their abusive behaviors and changing their beliefs and attitudes . . .”</p> <p><a href="http://www.nonviolencealliance.org">http://www.nonviolencealliance.org</a></p> <p>(860) 347-8220</p>
Sandy Hook Promise	<p>Sandy Hook Promise was founded in the wake of the Newtown school shooting. Its mission is to “prevent the causes of gun violence by educating and empowering parents to make changes in their community” and “help our community through this tragedy” by providing financial and other aid to those affected by the shooting.</p> <p><a href="http://www2.sandyhookpromise.org/">http://www2.sandyhookpromise.org/</a></p> <p>(203) 304-9780</p>
Survivors of Homicide	<p>This organization, founded in 1983 by families of murder victims, describes itself as “advocates for all victims of violent crime, for fair compensation to victims, and for public policy and understanding that reduces the senseless violence sweeping our communities.”</p> <p><a href="http://www.survivorsofhomicide.com">http://www.survivorsofhomicide.com</a></p> <p>(860) 257-7388</p>

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

***Project Longevity***

“Project Longevity,” [launched](#) in New Haven in 2012, is a comprehensive community-based initiative designed to reduce gun violence in Connecticut’s cities. [PA 13-247](#), § 25, requires the Office of Policy and Management secretary to secure and use available federal and state funds and resources to (1) support the continued implementation of

the Project Longevity initiative in New Haven and (2) work with specified federal and state officials to implement the initiative in Hartford and Bridgeport and create a plan to implement it statewide.

### ***Additional Links Regarding Crime Victims***

- Office of the Victim Advocate (“an independent state agency charged with the promotion and protection of the constitutional and statutory rights of crime victims in Connecticut”): <http://www.ct.gov/ova/site/default.asp>
- Judicial Branch, Office of Victim Services (“the state’s lead agency established to provide services to victims of violent crime”); their website includes links to various community agencies providing services to crime victims: <http://www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim/>

### ***OLR Reports on Violence***

- Efforts to Reduce Youth Gang Involvement and Gang Violence: [2013-R-0043](#)
- Youth Violence in Connecticut Cities: [2013-R-0042](#)
- Gun Violence Reduction in Small U.S. Cities: [2012-R-0061](#)
- Guns and Youth Violence: [2010-R-0341](#)

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