

## Resources for Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence during COVID-19

**During an Emergency always call: 911**

### **Guardian Angel Community Services (GACS)**

All services provided at no fee

24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline: 815-729-1228

24-Hour Sexual Assault Hotline: 815-730-8984

24-Hour Adult Protective Services Hotline: 866-800-1409

Email: [info@gacsprograms.org](mailto:info@gacsprograms.org)

Visit website at <http://www.gacsprograms.org/>

Please see GACS Announcement regarding services during COVID-19 below:



### **Announcement: Guardian Angel's Programs & Services**

During these challenging times, the health and welfare of our community and clients continue to remain of utmost importance, therefore, our goal is to continue to provide as many services as possible, without interruption. However, some services will be modified, or placed on hold.

#### **Hotline Services:**

*Emergency 24 hour hotlines operated by the following programs will continue uninterrupted:*

- Adult Protective Services Hotline: 866-800-1409
- Groundwork Domestic Violence Hotline: 815-729-1228
- Sexual Assault Service Center Hotline: 815-730-8984

#### **Additionally:**

- Groundwork's 24- Hour Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter will continue to operate without interruption.
- Foster Care, Adult Protective Services and Suzys Caring Place will also continue operations, while some modifications have been made, depending on the type of service needed. Please reach out directly to the programs via the phone numbers provided below.
- Groundwork and our Sexual Assault Services Center will be providing individual counseling services via telephone, rather than in person. Advocacy in these programs will also be available via phone, and the courts currently remain open for emergency orders of protection. Medical advocacy services will be available at area hospitals for these programs as well.

#### **The following services will be delayed until further notice:**

- Partner Abuse Intervention Program Classes

- Exchange Club Center Parenting Classes
- Sexual Assault Services Center and Groundwork Group Counseling Services
- Prevention Education & Community Outreach

**For Non-Emergency Program Information, Please Dial (815) 729-0930 & Extensions As Follows:**

- Partner Abuse Intervention Program: 1525
- Sexual Assault Services Center: 1330
- Adult Protective Services: 1472
- Exchange Club Center: 1301
- Suzy's Caring Place: 1451
- Foster Care: 1304

You may reach our Development Department at 815-729-0930, ext. 1235

For general agency questions, you may reach our Welcome Center at 815-729-0930.

### **Automated Victim Notification System (AVN) / VINELink**

Provides victim notification of a defendant's release from custody and court dates.

Register at **VINELink.com** or call toll-free 1-866-566-8439

### **Bridges to a New Day**

#### **Domestic Violence Program:**

Offers individual or family counseling for survivors of domestic violence at no fee.

Office currently closed due to COVID-19 but offering Tele-Health services.

215 West Romeo Road

Romeoville, IL 60446

Telephone: 815-838-2690

Visit website at <https://www.bridgestoanewday.org/>

### **Crisis Line of Will County** (Joliet) 815-722-3344

Provides resources & referral services, telephone counseling, reassurance calls, suicide prevention & intervention, TDD.

### **Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS)**

DCFS continues to operate its hotline and carry out investigations. As always, if you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, you should report it to the DCFS hotline immediately. You can contact the DCFS hotline by phone at 800-25-ABUSE (800-252-2873 or TTY 800-358-5117) or visit the DCFS website to make an online report.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dcfs/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Prairie State Legal Services**

Prairie State Legal Services are still serving clients. While their Office is closed to the public, staff is working remotely to provide assistance.

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

18 West Cass Street - 5th Floor

Joliet, IL 60432

Telephone: 815-727-5123

FAX: 815-727-5152

Visit website at <https://pslegal.org/>

### **Prairie State Legal Services - Victims Legal Advice Line**

(toll-free) 844-388-7757

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Wednesday 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

### **Protective Orders – Will County Courthouse**

Protective Orders Help Desk: 815-740-8064

Will County Courthouse

14 West Jefferson Street, Joliet, IL 60432

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Begin Petition for protective order online at <https://www.illinoisprotectionorder.org/OOP/>

### **Important information during COVID-19:**

- Will County Court Personnel still assisting walk-ins with Protective Orders
- However, if possible, it may be helpful to complete as much of the Petition online as possible before arriving at Will County Courthouse to limit exposure to others.
- Once you start a Petition online, you will receive a receipt number at the beginning of the process. This number should be kept in a safe location and allows you to start, stop and continue completing the petition as needed.
- Due to COVID-19, Will County Court Personnel are assisting people seeking protective orders from behind a glass window on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Courthouse. Please be aware privacy may be limited.
- Guardian Angel Community Services Legal Advocates are available for questions or assistance with completing Petitions for Protective Orders online. For assistance, please call Groundwork 24-hour hotline at 815-729-1228 and ask to speak with Alise or Kayla.

### **Will County Children's Advocacy Center**

Hope, healing & justice for abused children.

Will County State's Attorney James Glasgow, Founder and Board Chair

The Will County Children's Advocacy Center continues to operate and provide essential services critical to children's health, safety, and well-being with some modifications developed in compliance with the National Children's Alliance's COVID-19 Guidance. Please see the Will

County CAC's comprehensive plan to meet the needs of our community while minimizing the exposure of staff, MDT partners, and the children/family we serve at <https://www.willcountycac.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/CAC-COVID-19-RESPONSE.pdf>.

304 N. Scott Street  
Joliet, IL 60432-4035  
Main: 815/774-4565  
Visit website at <https://www.willcountycac.org/>

**Will County Circuit Clerk**

14 West Jefferson Street  
Joliet, IL 60432  
Telephone: 815-727-8592  
Visit website at <https://www.circuitclerkofwillcounty.com/>

To check the status of Will County Court cases including criminal, civil and protective order matters online at [www.circuitclerkofwillcounty.com](http://www.circuitclerkofwillcounty.com) by clicking the Case Lookup link and searching by a name or case number.

**Will County Legal Self Help Center**

**Will County Courthouse**

14 West Jefferson Street  
Law Library, 4th Floor  
Joliet, IL 60432  
(815) 727-8540

**Joliet Public Library**

150 North Ottawa St.  
Joliet, IL 60432  
(815) 740-2660

Visit website at <https://www.illinoislegalaid.org/organizations/will-county-legal-self-help-center>

**Will County Sheriff's Office**

Telephone: 815-727-6191  
16911 W. Laraway Road  
Joliet, Illinois 60433  
Visit website at <https://www.willcosheriff.org/>

For assistance in obtaining an order of protection, additional resources or information in regards to domestic violence, you can contact Will County Sheriff's Office Police Social Worker, Bonnie McPhillips at 815-724-1878.

**Will County State's Attorney's Office**

**James W. Glasgow, Will County State's Attorney**

In the interest of public health, beginning March 19, 2020 our reception office will be closed to in-person visitors until further notice. Our office is fully available to receive telephone calls, and request that if you need assistance you contact the State's Attorney's Office at 815-727-8453.

You may also reach out via the "Contact Us" form on our website at <https://willcountysao.com/>. Our office will remain open with staff working in shifts to reduce the number of people present at our office at any given time.

Victim Witness Services is available by phone to explain services offered to crime victims, assess needs, provide resources and referrals, inform crime victims of their rights, how to assert those rights, provide notice of case status, explain court process and proceedings, and provide and coordinate support services during the criminal justice process. To speak with an Advocate, please call 815-727-8453.

Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

**National Domestic Violence Hotline:** 800-799-SAFE (7233) or 800-787-3224 (TTY)

**National Sexual Assault Hotline:** 800-656-HOPE (4673)