Availability, Information, Advocacy, Referral, Education, and Grief Support

A note from Joan Shirley as a fellow victim and as the victim advocate for the Resource Center:

Hello,

My name is Joan Shirley and I, too, lost my son, Kevin, to violent death in 1999. I am here to support your family through the difficult grief and criminal justice system processes; including courtroom accompaniment. I am also a good source for referrals of many services for families who have lost loved ones to violence. I am so very sorry that you have lost your loved one so tragically and I stand ready to serve your family.

Respectfully,

Joan Shirley, Victim Advocate

A message from Gabino and Barbara Venegas: supporters and participants in our Bridges for Victims of Violent Death programs.

Like many of you, we too lost our loved one to violent death in 1998. We know and understand your feelings of shock, pain, loneliness, and despair when you first hear of a loved one's death. Our life came to a screeching halt and it was truly the end of our world as we knew it. We were angry that no one seemed to care except for family and friends. We had no one to turn to for advice and guidance.

Learning that we were not alone and of so many families experiencing tragedy, we were fortunate to meet and become involved in this organization. We have met others in need of help during their difficult time.

We are here to assist families, relatives and friends understand the services available to help you find justice for your loved one. We will have a Spanish speaking member to interpret and speak in Spanish if you prefer.

We send our deepest condolences for the loss of your loved one and look forward to being of help your family. ¿Cómo podemos ayudarle durante su tiempo difícil?

Respectfully,

Gabino and Barbara Venegas