



CHERYL WATSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP MASSACHUSETTS VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY

In memory and honor of the Essex County District Attorney's Chief of Victim Witness Services, Cheryl Watson, the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance will award scholarships for the Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy (MVAA). Cheryl was deeply committed to the MVAA and was involved as a member of the initial steering committee to create the academy. She then served for many years as an academy mentor and faculty member to share her wisdom and inspire a new generation of victim advocates. The Cheryl Watson Memorial Scholarships will be awarded for both the traditional and advanced academies. Selected recipients will be recognized during the Victim Rights Conference in April. Recipients will currently be working with victims and survivors of crime in either criminal justice or community based programs. Competitive applicants will demonstrate strong leadership qualities, a dedication to victim advocacy, and a commitment to a career in victim services.

As the Chief of Victim Witness Services for the Essex County District Attorney's Office, Cheryl led by example. Her kindness and brilliance were admired by all who had the good fortune to work with her. Cheryl worked in the field of victim services for over twenty-five years. In 1986, she co-founded the Victim of Crime and Loss Program (VOCAL) at Project RAP in Beverly. Cheryl also worked as a victim witness advocate in the Essex County District Attorney's Office, as Victim Advocate/Outreach Coordinator for the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance and as Director of the Victim Compensation and Assistance Division in the Attorney General's Office. Notably, Cheryl's impact on victim services expanded beyond Massachusetts as she presented on numerous victim-related issues nationally and internationally. These presentations included traveling to Haifa, Israel to participate in a domestic violence conference for Israeli and Palestinian women. Cheryl was devoted to her husband, children, and grandchildren. We are grateful to her family for sharing her with all of the survivors she helped and her colleagues who benefited from her always present smile and her steady and profound wisdom.

**Cheryl Watson Memorial Scholarship
Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy
Application Cover Page**

APPLICANT'S NAME (PRINT)

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

APPLICANT'S TITLE

AGENCY

AGENCY DIRECTOR'S NAME (PRINT)

AGENCY DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE

DATE

Scholarships are available for both traditional and advanced academy attendees.

Interested applicants must submit the following:

- 1. A complete, signed MVAA application**
- 2. The Cheryl Watson Memorial Scholarship Application Cover Page**
- 3. A written narrative (no more than three pages) that includes the following:**
 - a. a brief description of your current position, scope of work, achievements to date, and commitment to victim services
 - b. a narrative on how your professional work, civic/volunteer experience, and/or other efforts demonstrate the qualities and ideals espoused by Cheryl Watson.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 3, 2017.

Please submit completed application with scholarship materials to:

MOVA, c/o MVAA

One Ashburton Place, Suite 1101, Boston, MA 02108

Fax: 617-586-1341, E-mail: MOVA@state.ma.us