

January 31, 2019

Dear Garden of Peace Families and Friends,

I am honored to inform you that as of January 17, 2019, the Victim & Witness Assistance Board—the governing board for the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA)—has formally assumed responsibility for the Garden of Peace.

On behalf of the Victim & Witness Assistance Board and MOVA, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Garden’s founders for having made their idea a reality, and to the recent and all past board members for their dedication to building on the founders’ vision and sustaining the Garden. I assure you that going forward, MOVA will continue to honor those named in the Garden, their families, and all those impacted by homicide. We are also grateful to the legislature and the Garden community for this humbling opportunity to serve those who have been impacted by violence and to raise awareness of its costs.

In order to begin our work, we need your help! To ensure we can keep you informed of Garden events, volunteer opportunities, and other updates, please visit the *Contact Us* page on the Garden of Peace website or email gardenofpeace@mass.gov with your complete current contact information and inform us if/when any of these changes. If you know or have worked with a family member or others connected to the Garden, please forward this letter to them so we can be sure to engage them in the future.

Please continue to monitor the Garden of Peace website in the coming weeks for more information about a new Garden of Peace advisory committee. If you have any thoughts or questions about the Garden or this transition, please contact us at gardenofpeace@mass.gov or call 617-586-1369.

We look forward to working with you to carry out the Garden’s mission. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Liam T. Lowney