

## SARU Peer Support

The mission of the Peer Support Leaders is to promote **empowerment, self-determination, education** and **accessibility** for sexual assault survivors with disabilities through peer support leadership.



### Peer Support Leaders:

- ◆ Promote empowerment, self-determination, education and accessibility for sexual assault survivors with disabilities through peer support leadership.
- ◆ Offer peer-to-peer support by using real life experiences to connect with peers to ensure they do not feel alone.
- ◆ Outreach to professionals across various disciplines to transform the way we respond to sexual assault survivors with disabilities.
- ◆ Promote inclusiveness within the community through advocacy and national networking to ensure persons with disabilities have access to services they desire and need.

## Who Is DPPC?

The Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC) is an independent state agency. Massachusetts General Law chapter 19C (M.G.L. c. 19C) established the DPPC to protect adults with mental and physical disabilities, between the ages of 18 and 59, from abuse or neglect by their caregiver(s) whether in a private, family or state care setting. The DPPC enabling statute fills the gap between the child protection (through the age of 17) and elder protection (age 60 and over) statutes.

**DPPC 24-Hour Abuse Hotline: 1-800-426-9009**

## Working Together

Navigators and Peer Support Leaders work together to address challenges and work towards success by providing:

- ◆ Support for survivors
- ◆ Outreach to Community
- ◆ Cross-Training within our team and the DPPC
- ◆ Support and encouragement to each other



## Disabled Persons Protection Commission



## Sexual Assault Response Unit



## Start by Believing!

### Sexual Assault Response Unit

Disabled Persons Protection Commission  
300 Granite Street, Suite 404  
Braintree, MA 02184

Phone: 617-727-6465  
24 Hour Hotline: 800-8426-9009  
Fax: 617-727-6469  
Web: [www.mass.gov/dppc](http://www.mass.gov/dppc)

# DPPC's Sexual Assault Response Unit (SARU)

*Information, Support and Resources for Persons with Disabilities*

## Empowering and Inspiring Recovery

The Sexual Assault Response Unit (SARU), within the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC), provides sexual assault survivors with peer support, information, resources and assistance in obtaining trauma services. SARU staff work with individuals with disabilities, families and care providers. All services are free, confidential and mobile. If you can't come to SARU, we will come to you.

### The SARU offers:

- ◆ Confidential services
- ◆ Sexual assault information
- ◆ Peer support
- ◆ Assistance in accessing trauma services

SARU staff help friends, family and staff, that support the survivor, to access trauma services. The SARU also provides technical assistance and case consultation to professionals throughout the state.

### SARU Navigators

Navigators want to make sure your voice and choices are heard. Navigators work together with you, your providers and others to help you get what you want and need. Navigators can help you access medical care such as SANE, legal services, counseling, peer support, and other services you may need. Navigators are here to work with you as a team.



If you would to speak with a Navigator about how they can help you, please call: 617-727-6465. You, your family, caregiver, or providers can call us.