



## Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Survivors

### Who is Eligible for Safe at Home?

The Safe at Home program is available for Connecticut residents who are or have been victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or risk of injury to a minor. Anyone living in the same household as the victim (for example, children, parents or siblings) may also be eligible to participate. Safe at Home is designed to help survivors and their families who have had to move or are planning to move. The program provides a free mail-forwarding service to keep your new address safe and private. If you are currently living in the same established, public address and are not planning to move, Safe at Home cannot protect the privacy of your current address.

### How Safe at Home Works:

If you have moved or are planning to move and want to keep your new address private, Safe at Home can help. The program provides you with a substitute address to which all your first-class mail is sent. The Office of the Secretary of the State then forwards your mail to your new actual home address. The substitute address can be used for local and state government agency records (like the Department of Motor Vehicles), court and government records (driver's license, library card, traffic tickets, vehicle registration, employment security, school records, workers' compensation). Your voter registration and marriage record can be kept confidential. On your voter registry, your name will appear but your street and house number will not be listed.



### Enrolling in the Program:

Trained victim service professionals can support you in determining if Safe at Home suits you and your family's safety needs. You can contact your local domestic violence or sexual assault crisis center to schedule an in-person appointment to apply. These centers provide counseling, advocacy, and shelter services for victims. The victim service professionals will explain how the program works, help you fill out the application, and discuss any of your overall safety concerns. Toll free numbers and websites are provided in this brochure.

### Becoming Certified:

Once you have completed your application in person at one of the centers, it is mailed to the Office of the Secretary of the State to be reviewed and certified. When approved, you are given a new substitute address, certification code, and a certification card. Your certification card shows your substitute address and will be sent to you with a guide explaining how it can be used when filling out forms. Local and State agencies must accept your substitute address. Private companies (department stores, banks, utility companies, etc.) are not required to accept the substitute address – but many do if participants explain their need to use the Safe at Home program. Upon receiving your certification card, you can begin having mail sent to the substitute address. The certification card alerts public agencies that you are in the Safe at Home program. The Safe at Home address is effective for four years. At the end of the four-year period, you can renew your application. You can end the program at any time.



**To find out more about how Safe at Home works and to receive information about applications and assistance, call to schedule your appointment:**

#### Connecticut Alliance To End Sexual Violence

24 Hour Toll-Free Hotline: **1-888-999-5545** English **1-888-568-8332** Español  
**endsexualviolencect.org**

#### Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV)

24 Hour Toll-Free Hotline: **1-888-774-2900**  
**www.ctcadv.org**



Stephanie Thomas, Secretary of the State