

# Investing in Safety, Dignity and Liberty



The Massachusetts Coalition Against  
Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

## Mission Statement

**Jane Doe Inc., The Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence brings together organizations and people committed to ending sexual assault and domestic violence.**

**We create social change by addressing the root causes of this violence, and promote justice, safety and healing for survivors.**

**JDI advocates for responsive public policy, promotes collaboration, raises public awareness, and supports our member organizations to provide comprehensive prevention and intervention services.**

**We are guided by the voices of survivors.**

## An investment in Jane Doe

**benefits** our more than 60 local members, the victims and survivors in those communities, and the agencies that work with our members, and the state and national partners with whom we work. By funding JDI, the investment reaches far beyond one local program and the victims it serves; *it is exponential.*

**gives** men who abhor violence against women, the opportunity to take a stand against sexual assault and domestic violence and find ways to make a difference for victims and their children; they join with other men and boys to demonstrate that there are options other than violence and abuse for powerful, strong men and boys.

**allows** JDI to collect, interpret and disseminate information that helps local and state-wide agencies understand sexual assault and domestic violence and how to stop it.

**helps** local communities by ensuring that cohesive public policy advocacy is responsive to the experiences of MA victims and survivors.

### *Purpose Statement*

1. To create social change by addressing the root causes of sexual and domestic violence, and to promote safety, justice and healing for survivors.
2. To advocate for responsive public policy, promote collaboration and raise public awareness.
3. To establish and support a coalition that provides support to those programs that provide comprehensive prevention and intervention services.
4. To make an impact on public opinion concerning the issue of sexual and domestic violence.

## History and Scope: Who we are

Jane Doe Inc.:

- is a state-wide membership advocacy organization dedicated to preventing and abolishing sexual assault and domestic violence
- operates from a gender analysis of sexual and domestic violence within a social justice framework
- was formed by the 1998 merger of the MA Coalition of Battered Women Service Groups (founded in 1978) and the MA Coalition Against Sexual Assault (founded in 1973)
- is recognized within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an authority on these issues and works closely with state agencies, the Executive and Legislative Branches of State Government, other state and national advocacy organizations, and federal agencies and elected officials.

## Who we serve:

*Our membership is comprised of more than sixty community-based sexual assault and domestic violence, and/or dual programs across the Commonwealth that provide advocacy support and services for victims/survivors of SA/DV and their children.*

*"When JDI speaks, they give voice to every survivor in every community within Massachusetts..."*

Paulo Pinto, MPA, Executive Director, MAP  
(Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers)

## What we do:

- advocate at the state and national level for public policies and practices that improve options for victims and survivors and the local programs that provide support and services.
- work closely with other state coalitions and national organizations to remain current on developments in the field and to influence policy and practice.
- look to the margins to identify victims, members, advocates communities and populations that may be under represented, overlooked, disenfranchised or otherwise made invisible.
- serve as a statewide resource center on sexual assault and domestic violence. Jane Doe Inc. provides networking opportunities and support; technical assistance, training, and information; and facilitates communication among the membership.
- provide a collective voice on the issues of sexual and domestic violence in framing them as human rights and social justice concerns that require both short and long-term solutions.
- work with our member programs in order to understand the impact of sexual assault and domestic violence on victims and local communities as well as the impact of current systems, practices and policies on victims and their children, in order to create effective and life sustaining solutions.
- recognize that coalitions are most effective when they are member centric and victim focused to best understand the experiences of survivors which drives our prevention, technical assistance and policy advocacy actions.



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