

Immigration Options for Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence

VAWA - Violence Against Women Act

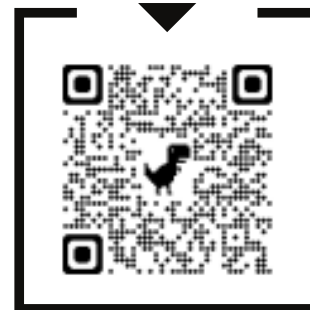
Protection for family of abusive US citizen, permanent resident or H-1B

- Protects spouse, child, or parent of abusive citizen or permanent resident
- Protects H-4 spouse or child of abusive H-1B visa holder
- Proof of battery or extreme cruelty
 - Does not require physical injury.
 - Can show emotional or financial abuse or
 - Immigration related threats or
 - Hyper-Controlling behavior
- VAWA lets Survivor apply for green card or work permit without abuser's consent or help.
 - Green card for family of citizen or resident
 - Work authorization for H-4s
- Other VAWA protections may help
 - victims of trafficking
 - DV survivors with conditional green cards

VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAMS

Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV)

SCAN ME



U Visa: For victims of serious crime who cooperate with law enforcement.

- Immigration relief for a survivor who does not qualify for VAWA or who is out of status. For example:
 - Student visa, even if overstay
 - Family of visiting scholar or worker
 - B1/B2, even if overstay
 - Undocumented person
- Requires proof of substantial physical or mental harm
- Requires law enforcement certification:
 - The survivor has information helpful to the investigation AND
 - Has cooperated with law enforcement or prosecutors.
- Must be a victim of a "qualifying crime" • Examples related to sexual violence:
 - Abusive Sexual Contact
 - Domestic Violence
 - False Imprisonment
 - Female Genital Mutilation
 - Felony Assault
 - Rape
 - Sexual Assault
 - Sexual Exploitation
 - Stalking
 - Trafficking

IOWA HELPLINE:

1-800-770-1650

text IOWAHELP to 20121

www.survivorshelpline.org

List of immigration lawyers

SCAN ME



This overview is intended for general initial screening purposes only. If you think someone may qualify for one of these immigration benefits, consult an immigration attorney for additional requirements and individualized assessment of options.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2020-WA-AX-0013 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.