

COUNSELING SERVICES

LAVO's licensed social worker provides free individual and group counseling to survivors of violence throughout the post-conviction process. LAVO offers a safe, supportive space to process trauma and loss, and work toward holistic mental and emotional health. Counseling services are available in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and through HIPAA compliant video conferencing.

We offer:

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Healing Activities

For more information on counseling services, or to schedule an appointment, please call 225.342.1570



EDUCATION

Knowledge is important.

LAVO provides notification about upcoming pardon and parole hearings, information about statewide policies, and instruction about how the pardons and parole process works.

This knowledge can help victims feel more confident, lessen confusion about how parole decisions are made, and lead to greater ease throughout the process.

HEALING

Victims deserve to heal from harm.

Even if the harm was caused many years ago, it can have lasting effects. Healing is still possible. LAVO offers counseling, as well as a variety of other restorative practices, such as self-compassion training, mindfulness, and expressive arts.

CONNECTION

There is a large victim and survivor community. Within this are people who represent a wide range of perspectives, experiences, and insights. LAVO brings victims, survivors, advocates, service providers, and community members together in order to strengthen connections that can lead to greater health and wholeness for everyone.

LAVO

LOUISIANA · VICTIM · OUTREACH · PROGRAM

LAVO provides victims and survivors of violent offenses with resources to navigate the pardons and parole process.

With a compassionate response to victims' needs, LAVO empowers victims and survivors through education, encourages healing through restorative programming, and grows a support system through state-wide outreach.

The Louisiana Victim Outreach Program (LAVO) is an initiative of the Louisiana Board of Pardons and Parole.

VICTIM'S RIGHTS

The Louisiana Board of Pardons and Parole involves victims/survivors in the process at all times, considers victim/survivors to be integral partners, and works to ensure your rights.

Victim/Survivors have the right to:

- Be acknowledged
- Be treated with respect and compassion
- Be and feel safe
- Be seen as unique individuals with varied and distinct concerns and points of view
- Be heard and allowed to speak for themselves about the impact of the crime
- Be invited as partners into pardon, parole, and reentry processes.
- Be informed through consistent, reliable, and easy access to information.
- Be notified of proceedings that affect them.
- Seek restitution for damages and losses.
- Trauma-informed services in to be assisted in healing from the effects of crime.

WHAT IS...?

ACCOUNTABILITY LETTER

An accountability letter is a letter written by an offender to the victim(s) of the crime(s) for which the offender has been sentenced accepting responsibility for the crime, acknowledging the harm caused to the victim, and expressing regret for that harm.

VICTIM-IMPACT STATEMENT

A victim impact statement is a written or oral statement made as part of the judicial legal process, which allows crime victims the opportunity to speak during the sentencing of the convicted person or at subsequent parole hearings.

VICTIM-OFFENDER DIALOGUE

Victim-Offender Dialogue (VOD) is a series of facilitated communication between victims and offenders, conducted in safe and secure conditions, where parties can express their feelings and needs, talk about issues related to the harm caused by crime, and possibly have a face-to face meeting with the person who committed the crime.

LAVO

is your resource to answer any and all questions in a judgement-free environment.

LAVO CAN HELP

The pardons and parole process doesn't have to be confusing. LAVO can explain victims' rights and roles.

If you or someone you care about has a question, would like to receive counseling or other healing services, or just want to talk with someone about what to expect, LAVO is ready to help. All services are free and confidential.



CONTACT US

Find out more about the resources available to you, helpful information, and answers to any questions you may have.

JULIE COLLURA, MM, MSW, LMSW
LAVO SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR
JULIE.COLLURA@LA.GOV
225.342.1570

Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole
P.O. Box 94304
Baton Rouge, LA
70804-9304

WWW.LAVO.INFO