

# OVS Resource Connect

## How to Use: OVS Resource Connect

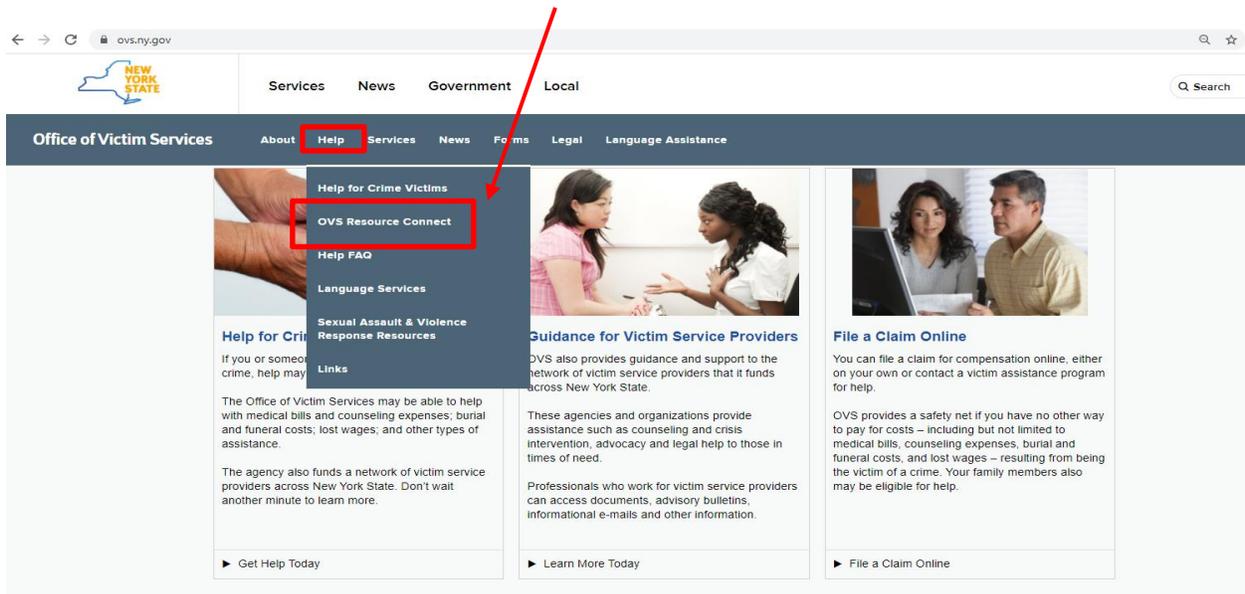
### About Site:

OVS Resource Connect is a concern-based online search engine connecting users with potential crime victim resources managed by the Office of Victim Services (OVS). By allowing users to search for resources by concern, category, keyword, and geographic location, OVS Resource Connect quickly locates crime victim services, resources and information provided by Victim Assistance Programs (VAPs) funded by OVS.

### Accessing Site:

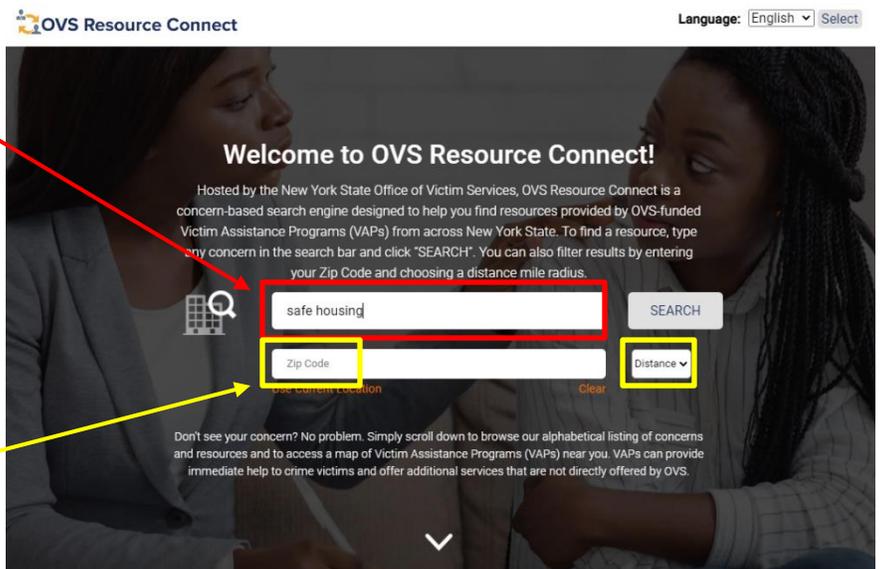
1. Visit [ovs.ny.gov/connect](https://ovs.ny.gov/connect) or

From ovs.ny.gov homepage, click **OVS Resource Connect** under the *Help* section of the top menu bar:

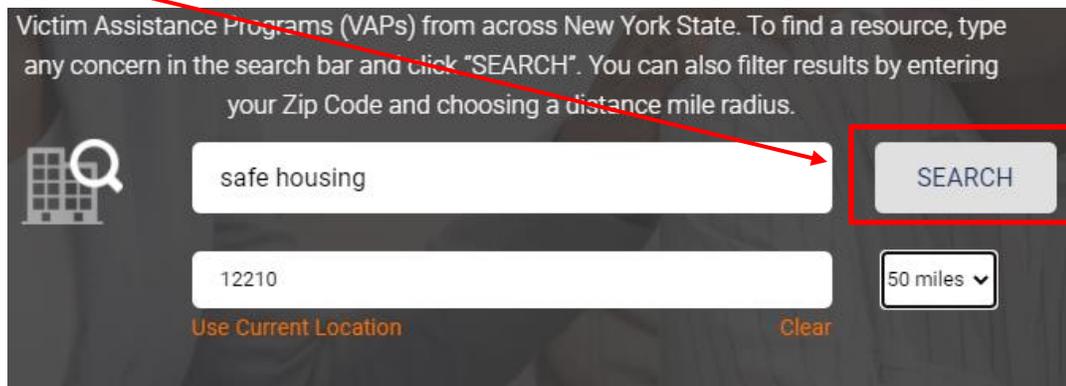


### Using Site:

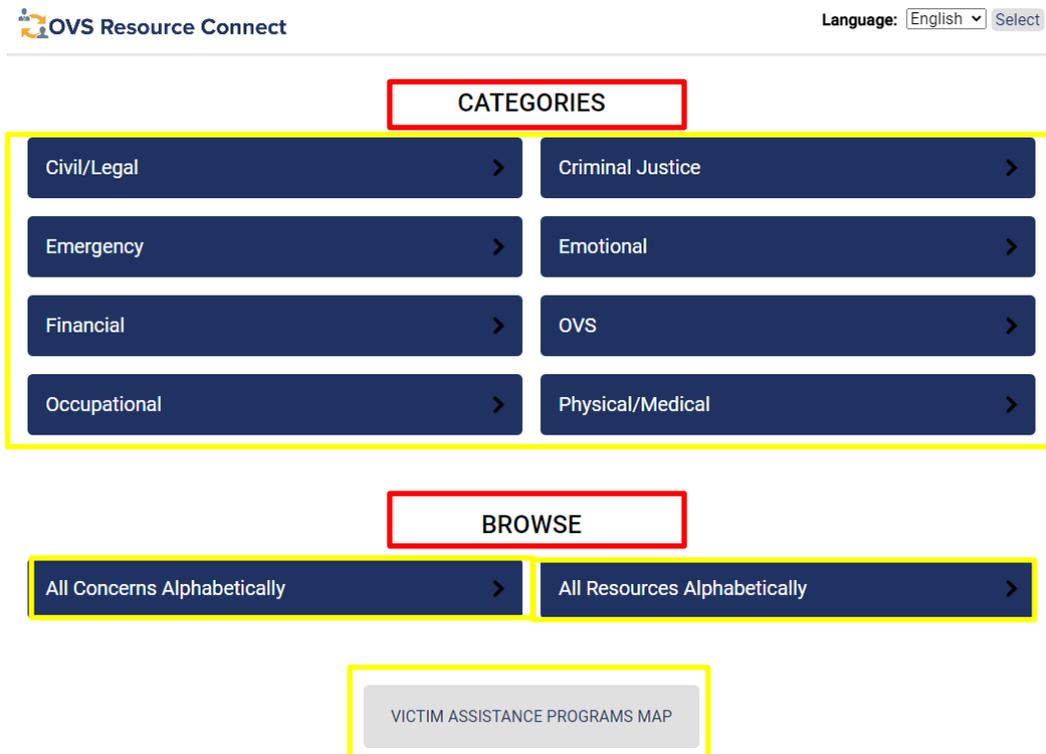
1. With your cursor in the *Search all concerns...* field, type **ANY** victim-related concerns or keywords; Common search terms include but are NOT limited to, “safe housing”, “help”, “victim services”, “abuse”, “stress”, “compensation”, etc.
2. To filter results near you, type in your **Zip Code** in the field beneath, then choose a mile radius preference in the *Distance* drop-down menu.



3. Then click **SEARCH** to process your request.



Alternatively, you can scroll down to the **CATEGORIES** and **BROWSE** section on the OVS Resource Connect homepage to view concern **categories**, **concerns** and **resources** sorted alphabetically as well as a link to a **map** of all OVS-funded Victim Assistance Programs (VAPs).



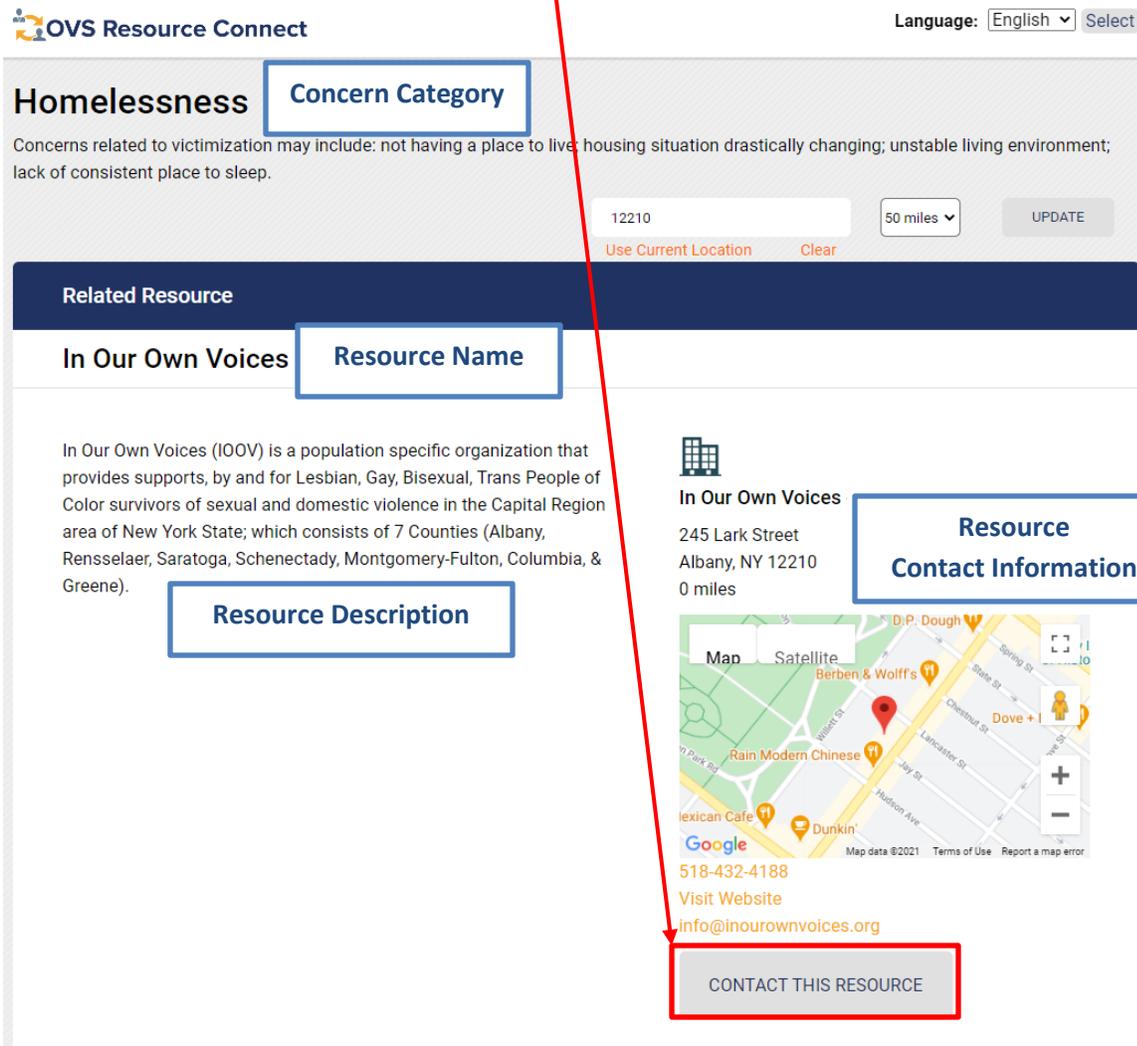
Note: OVS Resource Connect maintains more than 10,000 keywords associated with nearly 100 different concerns. Site users are encouraged to search using multiple keywords to better match resources associated with each search query.

4. Search results from your keyword(s) entered will automatically populate on a new page. Scroll through each concern category until you find the concern or concerns most closely related to your initial search.

5. Click on a concern category.

6. Resources associated with that chosen concern category will automatically populate on the next page and if a Zip Code was originally entered, resources will sort nearest to furth. Each Resource populated features a

brief description about that organization, contact information (if provided) including an address, phone number, website and email. In addition, users can contact the organization directly through OVS Resource Connect using the **“CONTACT THIS RESOURCE”** button.



### More Information:

All site users are encouraged to view the OVS Resource Connect Site Guidelines to review site rules, policies, and terms. For any additional information about OVS Resource Connect, please contact us at [ovsresourceconnect@ovs.ny.gov](mailto:ovsresourceconnect@ovs.ny.gov).