**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

November 22, 2017

In this Issue...

[National Center For Victims Of Crime: Employment Opportunity](#_National_Center_For)

[Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute: Employment Opportunity](#_PCAR/NSVRC:_Employment_Opportunity)

[Center For Victim Research: Research-to-Practice (R2P) Fellowship](#_Center_For_Victim)

[Crisis Center North Presents: Stories Coming Together](#_Crisis_Center_North)

[PCAR: Two Upcoming Training Opportunities Geared For Prosecutors](#_PCAR:_Two_Upcoming)

[PCADV: Offender Accountability Forum](#_PCADV:_Offender_Accountability)

[2018 PCAR State Conference: Call for Workshop Proposals](#_2018_PCAR_State)

[Community Crisis Response: Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness Conference](#_Community_Crisis_Response:)

[Innovative Timesavers: Track It Forward](#_Innovative_Timesavers:_Track)

[OVC: Assault Fact Sheet](#_OVC:_Assault_Fact)

[Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings](#_Compensation_Corner_–_9)

[America’s Mass Shooting Problem Is A Domestic Violence Problem](#_America’s_Mass_Shooting)

[In Case You Missed It, We’re Complicit: Sexual Harassment In The Workplace](#_In_Case_You)

[PCAR: Victim Service Program Evaluation](#_PCAR:_Victim_Service)

[OVW Justice For Families Grant Application Now Available!](#_OVW_Justice_For_1)

[PDAI Victim Services Training News](#_I’m_Still_Reeling)

[NCJTC: Creating Restorative Justice and Restorative Practice Pathways In Schools, Justice Systems, and Communities: A View From Indigenous And Western Lenses](#_NCJTC:_Creating_Restorative_1)

[NCVC: 2017 National Training Institute](#_PCAR_Training:_Sexual_1)

[HAVIN Presents David Markel: The Forensics Experiential Trauma Interview](#_HAVIN_Presents_David_1)

[Upcoming Training Opportunities Through PCADV](#_Upcoming_Training_Opportunities_1)

[Save The Date: 2018 PLAN VOCA Grantee](#_Save_The_Date:_6)

[Scholarships Available For 2017 National Victim Service Conferences](#_2018_National_Crime_1)

Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6)Compensation Related: Basic, Advanced-Counseling, Transportation Expenses, Restitution and much more!

Credits towards VOCA/RASA/VOJO training requirements are available for all sessions (unless indicated otherwise in the session description). To receive training credits: 1) you must be logged into the session and 2) the WebEx application must be on your computer for the entire duration of the session. As the OVS recognizes that emergencies may arise and you may not be able to attend the entire session, there is no prohibition against attending part of a session (although training credits will not be given in that instance).

* + [Training/Networking Opportunities](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/OVS-Training-Networking-Opportunities.aspx)
  + [Additional RASA/VOJO/VOCA Approved Training](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/RASA-VOCA-VOJO-Trainings.aspx)

[Return to top](#_top)

# National Center For Victims Of Crime: Employment Opportunity

The National Center for Victims of Crime is seeking a Program Director for its Center for Victim Research. The Program Director will be a dynamic champion of quality response to crime victims, with an interest in promoting the use of research, data, and evaluation by victim service providers. The ideal candidate will be well-connected with the victim advocacy community and have experience with project management. For more information, please click [here](https://victimsofcrime.org/about-us/employment-opportunities#directorCVR).

(Please note: If the link does not open on your browser, please visit <http://victimsofcrime.org/>, click on About Us, and Employment Opportunities.)

[Return to top](#_top)

# Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute: Employment Opportunity

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI) is seeking a consultant to provide oversight to the Pennsylvania Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (PA SAVIN) program.  PA SAVIN provides crime victims and other interested individuals with free, confidential notification regarding an offender’s release, transfer or escape.  This consultant will work exclusively on the county jail-related portion of PA SAVIN.  The contract period will be January 1, 2018-December 31, 2018.  The consulting fee is negotiable based upon experience and capabilities.  This is an ongoing project anticipated to require consultant services beyond 2018. For more information, please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/job-openings/).

[Return to top](#_top)

# Center For Victim Research: Research-to-Practice (R2P) Fellowship

The Center for Victim Research team is pleased to announce a new effort to encourage collaboration between crime victim researchers and service providers—the **Research-to-Practice (R2P) Fellowship**:

[https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/fellowship-rfp-for-ovc.pdf](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.urban.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Ffellowship-rfp-for-ovc.pdf&data=02%7C01%7Cvmcmahon%40pa.gov%7Cc46482b261744494c37108d52ac428cd%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C1%7C636461944352336439&sdata=TK7AJE4cIGmHkrF10srcUgKn2379gaDrVPbm2PvijWI%3D&reserved=0)

This program is part of the newCenter for Victim Research(CVR) funded through the Office for Victims of Crime’s *Vision 21* initiative. CVR is designed to serve as a **one-stop shop** for victim service providers, researchers, and policymakers to connect and share knowledge to increase access to victim research and data and the relevance of research and data collection to victim services nationwide.

The funded R2P Fellowships are intended to establish and/or enhance local- and tribal-level partnerships among victim service providers and researchers and, ultimately, strengthen the evidence base on crime victim services.

We hope you will take advantage of this exciting opportunity. Please forward this announcement to colleagues or subgrantees who might be interested.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Crisis Center North Presents: Stories Coming Together

Crisis Center North presents “Stories Coming Together” an evening exploring stories of the LGBTQA+ community through both words and art.

Monday, November 27, 2017

6pm – 9pm

New Hazlett Theater

6 Allegheny Square E.

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Dr. Rachel Levine, Acting Pennsylvania Secretary of Health, Physician General, and Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry at Penn State College of Medicine, will be the keynote speaker and will address violence affecting the LGBTQA+ community.

In addition, photography exhibition “Where Love Is Illegal” by award winning photographer Robin Hammond will be on display. Hammond is the recipient of the W. Eugene Smith Fund for Humanistic Photography, a World Press Photo prize, the Pictures of the Year International World Understanding Award and four Amnesty International awards for Human Rights journalism.

The exhibit explores the stories of members of LGBTQA+ community around the world who have faced oppression for their sexual or gender identity. Those who are photographed, through the global storytelling campaign, choose how they want to pose, what to wear and how to present themselves. They hand write their stories and letters to be shared with the world. The project also invites the LGBTQA+ community to share their own stories through a global social media campaign and through local anti-stigma campaigns, developed in conjunction with Hammond’s team.

Please click [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stories-coming-together-tickets-38501468930) to learn more.

*This event has been approved for 2.5 hours of PCCD Annual Training.*

*University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work is offering 2.5 MSW/LPC CEU Credits for attendees of Stories Coming Together. $10 Registration fee for credits.*

[Return to top](#_top)

# PCAR: Two Upcoming Training Opportunities Geared For Prosecutors

**Focusing on the Offender: Prosecuting Crimes of Sexual Violence**

December 4, 2017

8:00am - 4:30pm  
PCAR Harrisburg Office  
2101 N Front Street, Governor’s Plaza North, Bldg. #2  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

This training is designed to help prosecutors and allied professionals develop an understanding of the sexual offense dynamics and deviant arousal patterns. This training will examine how offender-focused practices maintain focus on the perpetrator’s actions rather than the victim’s response to the crime. In this training, prosecutors and allied professionals will learn how to effectively integrate this knowledge into a victim-centered, offender-focused investigation and prosecution.

To learn more or to register for this event, please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=6dbf5ee5-b298-4265-a452-38e79cb9f181).

**Providing Context: Introducing Expert Testimony in Sexual Assault Cases**

Thursday, December 14th, 2017

1:00pm - 2:30pm

FREE WEBINAR

The public has deeply-rooted perceptions about sexual violence and about how victims of sexual assault should behave. The realities of sexual violence are quite different. Experienced professionals, familiar with the dynamics of sexual violence, understand that victims have individual responses to trauma. Without the benefit of a proper explanation, however, jurors may wrongly interpret a victim’s actions during and after an assault as reasons not to believe the victim’s testimony. In 2012, Pennsylvania law changed to permit expert testimony to explain victim behavior in sexual violence cases to assist the jury to make an informed decision based on the evidence, viewed in its proper context. Since statutory reforms have permitted such testimony to be utilized, the question becomes: what’s next for victim dynamic expert testimony in Pennsylvania?

To learn more or to register for this event, please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=89e7cef4-007d-4e07-86a5-1fbdc0433dbf).

[Return to top](#_top)

# PCADV: Offender Accountability Forum

**What works for the domestic violence offender? What can we do as a community to reduce recidivism?**

The Offender Accountability forum, hosted by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, PCADV, and Office of the Victim Advocate, will examine nationally recognized best practices in coordinated community responses to intimate partner violence that focus on victim safety and offender accountability.

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

9:30 AM-4:00 PM

Crowne Plaza, Harrisburg-Hershey

23 S 2nd St

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Registration Deadline (without Hotel Room): 11/28/17

\*\*\*Registration is Free\*\*\*

**Who should attend?** Law Enforcement, Probation and Parole Officers, Victim Services Advocates, Prosecutors and other first responders and those working with domestic violence offenders.

For more information, please click [here](http://www.pcadv.org/Resources/Offenderforum_invite_09252017.pdf).

[Return to top](#_top)

# 2018 PCAR State Conference: Call for Workshop Proposals

It is time to submit Workshop Proposals for the 2018 PCAR Statewide Conference! The conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel Harrisburg on July 18th and 19th.

The 2018 theme, Beyond Barriers, is dedicated to advocates and allied professionals who are going above and beyond to reach the underserved. From alternative school prevention programs to curriculums on reaching LGBTQ survivors, your peers around the state are eager to learn how you and your agency are reaching beyond the barriers to address sexual assault. Workshop topics of all varieties and subjects are welcome.

If you are interested in submitting a workshop proposal please click [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.surveymonkey.com%2Fr%2F2018PCAR&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C7e39f593c08a4f82fe6c08d52b73e673%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636462699153391832&sdata=8PcciMwhZH09nNNbQcrI%2F86tf7wm9BbQ3I5l7bAfg0A%3D&reserved=0). The deadline for submissions is **Friday; January 19th, 2018 by 5 pm**. Presenters will receive free registration towards the conference.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Community Crisis Response: Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness Conference

Registration is now open for the Community Crisis Response: Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness Conference presented by KCIT. The event is open to anyone with an interest in community crisis response!

May 2nd - 4th, 2018

Ramada Conference and Golf Hotel   
1450 S. Atherton Street  
State College, PA 16801  

**Topics to include:** Grief Trajectory, LGBTQ and Trauma, Vicarious Trauma, ACEs, Disaster Spiritual Care, Autism Spectrum Disorder and Crisis Intervention, Institutionalized Trauma, Body based Interventions, Lessons learned and teaching moments in a crisis.

**Keynotes to include:** A Virginia Tech shooting survivor, Columbine High School principal of the school and a Columbine High School survivor

To learn more and to register for this event, please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=6nqn8gdab&oeidk=a07ee943wcp1b1cd611).

Sponsors and Exhibitors wanted—email [info@kcitpa.org](mailto:info@kcitpa.org) for more information.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Innovative Timesavers: Track It Forward

**Track it Forward** is an app that makes reporting of volunteer service hours instantaneous.  It has a monthly cost of up to $150 month for an organization. For more information, please click [here](https://www.trackitforward.com/).

[Return to top](#_top)

# OVC: Assault Fact Sheet

Assault may be broken into two categories—aggravated or simple. Aggravated assault is defined as an attack with a weapon, an attack that causes serious bodily harm, or threatened assault with a weapon. Simple assault is defined as an unlawful attack or threat of attack that does not cause serious bodily harm. A Assault victimization varies largely by sex and geography. Some professions, including law enforcement and emergency room nurses are also at an increased risk. Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2017/images/en_artwork/Fact_Sheets/2017NCVRW_Assault_508.pdf) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# ****Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings****

The following trainings will be held on November 29, 2017

”Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following training will be held on December 12, 2017

Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1632179769&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1632179769&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Loss of Earnings Clinic – 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on December 20, 2017

Relocation Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 4, 2018

Myths of Compensation - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Counseling Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 17, 2018 

 Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

 Transportation Crime Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 30, 2018

Basic Compensation - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Loss of Support Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following DAVE training will be held on December 6, 2017

* DAVE Webex - 1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. [Click here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcopa.webex.com%2Fcopa%2Fk2%2Fj.php%3FMTID%3Dt734bf02b3a4a9da6eec96191569f7c80&data=02%7C01%7Cdpotter%40pa.gov%7Cddfbfc736bb94a14840308d515824a6e%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636438571699024284&sdata=hZ%2B865FISTuBMSsIlVjDl0G9rgc4D66YmvYeyVCn7Lg%3D&reserved=0) to register.

* *All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation which counts towards 2 and DAVE training which counts towards 2.15.*

[Return to top](#_top)

# America’s Mass Shooting Problem Is A Domestic Violence Problem

It seems like there is no place in America that is immune to a mass shooting. Inside a darkened movie theater. At a nightclub throbbing with sweaty bodies. During Sunday services at church. At an outdoor country music concert. These days, home seems like the safest bet. But the truth is, the most likely location for a mass shooting is precisely in that presumed refuge. The nightmarish reality is that most mass shootings in America are related to domestic violence. The overwhelming majority take place behind closed doors. Please click [here](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/mass-shooters-domestic-violence_us_5a0376e7e4b0937b510f5fdd) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# In Case You Missed It, We’re Complicit: Sexual Harassment In The Workplace

Perpetrators of sexual harassment do not act in a vacuum. Harvey Weinstein certainly did not commit his decades of sexual harassment in covert isolation. It was an “open secret” for many in and outside of the industry. Consider the co-workers who aid and abet by laughing at inappropriate sexual jokes, the board that looks the other way when rumors surface, and the human resources staff who fail to take action. Please click [here](https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/complicit-sexual-harassment-workplace/) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PCAR: Victim Service Program Evaluation

The Victim Service Program Evaluation project assesses current services and works to demonstrate to funding sources and the public the purpose and impact of services provided to victims of crime. It is intended to serve as a guide for victim service agencies wanting to embark on the process of evaluating the services they provide. Please click [here](http://www.pcar.org/resource/victim-service-program-evaluation) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# OVW Justice For Families Grant Application Now Available!

The Office on Violence Against Women supports activities that improve the capacity of communities and courts to respond to families impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, including cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse.

Eligible activities for the Justice for Families solicitation include court-based and court-related programs; supervised visitation and safe exchange by and between parents; training and technical assistance for people who work with families in the court system; civil legal services; provision of resources in juvenile court matters; and development or promotion of legislation, model codes, policies, and best practices.

**Deadlines:**

November 29: Letter of registration due

December 20: Application due

Please click [here](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1008606/download#Justice%20for%20Families) to download the solicitation.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PDAI Victim Services Training News

The following Victim Services training is now open for registration on the [PDAI website.](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.pdaa.org%2Fpdai-home%2F&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7Cbaaa9407fb7c4bd507ff08d50f2193b7%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636431559254874844&sdata=PmELoS5VqmpNwlLUyGtoMB%2FqtOYXsu9RX2TNPCgByBc%3D&reserved=0)  
  
Restitution Issues in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

The Toftrees Golf Resort  
One Country Club Lane  
State College, PA 16803

$25 Registration Fee. Scholarships are available.  
  
Overview: The Victims’ Services Program shall inform and advocate, on behalf of victims, regarding their right to restitution under Pennsylvania law and advocate on behalf of the victim(s) for the necessity and collection of restitution. This training will provide the necessary information and skills to advocate on behalf of victims.

If you need additional information, please contact Donna Hull at 484-947-4837 or [donna@dhullconsulting.com](mailto:donna@dhullconsulting.com).

[Return to top](#_top)

# NCJTC: Creating Restorative Justice and Restorative Practice Pathways In Schools, Justice Systems, and Communities: A View From Indigenous And Western Lenses

Learn more about restorative justice and restorative practice pathways for your community during this three-part webinar series.

December 4, 2017

1:00p.m. – 2:30p.m.

Gather details on structural frameworks needed to strategically plan, implement, and evaluate restorative justice/restorative practices in schools, justice systems, and communities with fidelity. Please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00000617/TRI0005585/restorative-justice-restorative-practices-webinar-series?utm_source=CC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2017%20-%2010-18-%20IASA-%20Restorative%20Justice%20webinars&utm_content=dec) to register.

January 17, 2017

11:00a.m. – 12:30p.m.

Apply different models and their uses in schools, justice systems, and communities. Please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00000617/TRI0005587/restorative-justice-restorative-practices-webinar-series?utm_source=CC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2017%20-%2010-18-%20IASA-%20Restorative%20Justice%20webinars&utm_content=jan) to register.

For questions, please contact (855)866-2582 or [info@ncjtc.org](mailto:info@ncjtc.org).

*Each webinar has been approved for 1.5 hours of PCCD Annual Training.*

[Return to top](#_top)

# NCVC: 2017 National Training Institute

The National Center for Victims of Crime is holding its 2017 National Training Institute, December 5-7, 2017, in Portland, Oregon! The Training Institute features more than 130 leading experts and 80 skill-building workshops with several key presentations pertaining to Advocacy. This two-and-one-half day training offers a chance to network and learn from other professionals in the victims’ field, as well as connect with victim advocates, law enforcement, counselors, program managers, attorneys, social workers, researchers, nurses, policymakers, system-based service providers, and other leaders from across the country. Please click [here](https://victimsofcrimetrainings.secure-platform.com/a/page/NTI) for more information.

[Return to top](#_top)

# HAVIN Presents David Markel: The Forensics Experiential Trauma Interview

Dave completed his CID-HQE appointment in 2014 and currently offers investigative training and consulting through his own business, Markel Consulting, LLC. Dave is one of the foremost experts in training the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview ©, a true trauma –informed interview and investigation approach based in the neuro-science of human trauma reactions and best-practice approaches to victim memory and post-assault behaviors.

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Belmont Complex

415 Butler Rd

Kittanning, PA 16201

Registration and Continental Breakfast 7:30 AM—8:00 AM

Training 8:00 AM—4:00 PM (*Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided)*

**Topics to be Covered**

* Overview of trauma and the brain
* Forensic Experiential Interview techniques that empower and calm victims, so that they are able to provide more accurate, coherent and consistent narrative
* Develop and apply the interview techniques through participation in a series of scenarios
* Employ the information learned to improve domestic and sexual violence and stalking investigations

**Who should attend?**

* Law Enforcement
* Prosecutors
* Victim Advocates
* Campus Conduct Administrators
* SART Members
* Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners
* Title IX Investigators
* Social Workers
* Caseworkers
* 911 Staff
* Teachers
* Corrections Personnel
* Forensic Interviewers
* Mental Health Professionals
* Medical Providers

Please complete one registration form per participant and forward to: Jen Wingard at [jwingard@havinpa.org](mailto:jwingard@havinpa.org), or fax to 724-543-7410. You may access the registration form [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/David%20Markel%20brochure.pdf).

[Return to top](#_top)

# Upcoming Training Opportunities Through PCADV

“Responding to Human Trafficking: Laws, Language and Links”

Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery that is occurring throughout Pennsylvania.  This training is designed to assist professionals working in the justice system to identify victims of human trafficking, increase knowledge of legal protections for human trafficking victims, understand how language access impacts victims seeking assistance through the courts, and become familiar with both the laws governing languages access as well as the court’s roles and responsibilities for language access.  Court administrators, PFA office staff, judges, prosecutors, children’s advocates, domestic violence and sexual assault advocates and victim/witness coordinators are encouraged to attend.  Location and registration information are below:

**December 12, 2017**

1 pm – 4 pm

Holiday Inn I-78 Lehigh Valley

7736 Adrienne Drive

Breningsville, PA 18031

Please click [here](http://iforms.pcadv.net/pods/handleEventRegistration.php?id=YQAJZ4OT7MDS) to register online.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Save The Date: 2018 PLAN VOCA Grantee

Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc. has scheduled the 2018 PLAN VOCA Grantee training for May 23 & 24, 2018 at the Hilton Harrisburg.  Please mark your calendars.

This training will fulfill the PCCD 10-hour CLE annual training requirement for VOCA funded legal staff and is also relevant for any family law practitioners. It will be CLE eligible and there will be no charge.

More information will be forthcoming next year!

[Return to top](#_top)

# ****Scholarships Available For 2017 National Victim Service Conferences****

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for scholarships to attend eligible national victim service conferences. This funding is made available through a grant awarded to PDAI by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for subsidizing the costs associated with attending these training conferences. These costs may include registration fees, per diem (for food), and reasonable transportation and lodging expenses. The scholarships are only available to victim service professionals to attend any national conference focused on victim service training. To qualify, the applicant’s entire job focus must be on providing support, information, and assistance to victims. Any eligible conference must be completed within the 2017 calendar year.  Only one person per agency can receive a scholarship and only after providing a sufficient justification of need. Recipients are selected based upon the information provided in the application, the number of scholarships previously awarded, and remaining available funding. Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2017%20PCCD%20Scholarship%20Application.docx) for the Scholarship Application.

[Return to top](#_top)

# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, December 6, 2017. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov) by November 29, 2017.

You have signed up to receive the OVS Newsletter from the Office of Victims' Services. This newsletter will be sent to you on a biweekly basis via email. If your email address changes or you would like to be removed from the OVS Newsletter distribution list, please contact Heather Hewitt at (717) 265-8730 or via email at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov).

Pennsylvania’s [Office of Victims’ Services](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx) | 3101 North Front Street | Harrisburg, PA 17110 | (717) 783-0551

[www.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pccd.pa.gov)

**PA Crime Victims Website**

[www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov)

**Twitter:** [@PaCrimmCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)