**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

December 5, 2018

In this Issue...

[SAVE THE DATE! Victim/Witness Services Foundational Academy](#_SAVE_THE_DATE!_1)

[OVS Needs Your Help: Help Us Help Them](#_VSP_Staff_Contact)

[OVC Funding Opportunities](#_ALL_RASA_AND)

[Destroyed: How The Trashing Of Rape Kits Failed Victims And Jeopardizes Pubic Safety](#_Destroyed:_How_The)

[Labor Trafficking in the United States Part One: A Hard Truth](#_Labor_Trafficking_in)

[Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings](#_NEW_On-Line_Training)

[Child Trafficking Training and Resources](#_Child_Trafficking_Training)

[Webinar: Reduce Attrition Rates Of Sexual Assault Through Proper Charging Decisions And Effective Jury Selection](#_Webinar:_Reduce_Attrition)

[Call For Proposals: KCIT’s Conscious Resiliency Conference – September 30-October 1, 2019](#_Call_For_Proposals:)

[Beyond The Breakthrough: 2019 National Sexual Assault Conference Call For Workshop Proposals](#_Emanuel_AME_Reverend)

[PDAI Victim Services Trainings](#_Colette_Green_And)

[Keystone Crisis Intervention Team: Death Notification Trainings](#_Keystone_Crisis_Intervention_4)

[Registration Now Open: 2019 International Conference On Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence And Increasing Access](#_Registration_Now_Open:_1)

[KCIT Basic Crisis Response Trainings – Application Now Open](#_Law_Enforcement_Scholarships_1)

[Program Highlights](#_Program_Highlights)

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)

# SAVE THE DATE! Victim/Witness Services Foundational Academy

February 11-13, 2018

The Sheraton Pittsburgh at Station Square

Pittsburgh, PA

Registration opens December 10, 2018. The last day to register is January 18, 2019.

Please click [here](https://www.pdaa.org/pdai-training-calendar/) to register.

**Please note the following changes for the 2019 Foundational Academies:** This year there will be 4 regional academies: Pittsburgh, State College, Center City Philadelphia, and Harrisburg. Because these academies are scheduled to be more convenient to attendees by cutting down the traveling distance, no overnight accommodations will be provided for the Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg academies. A continental breakfast and two break snacks will be provided.

Additional tentative dates are as follows:

* State College April 24th – 26th
* Philadelphia July 8th – 10th
* Harrisburg October 9th – 11th

Registration will open approximately 10 weeks prior to the week of the Academy. Priority will be given to those advocates for whom Foundational Academy training is mandatory.

For more information, please contact Amelia Smulktis, Restitution & Victim/Witness Training Consultant, at AJS@restitutionconsulting.com, or 717.333.2319.

[Return to top](#_top)

# OVS Needs Your Help: Help Us Help Them

**OVS will be launching its new website for Human Trafficking later this month. There will be a link on the PCCD website and the site will be hosted on the PA Crime Victims website, so that it will be accessible through our Crime Victims App. This website will be continually updated with new resources.**

As designated by ACT 105, the Office of Victim Services is creating an online website for human trafficking victims and for the victim service providers who offer them assistance. The human trafficking service provider directory, the legal directory, and the resource repository will include information for survivors of labor and sex trafficking, as well as resources for both providers and survivors.

Act 105 specifies that PCCD should compile a directory of services and benefits available to survivors, a directory of legal service providers and a directory of victim service providers specifying the services that each organization offers.

Please email all recommendations for inclusion in the victim service provider and legal assistance providers directories and any printed materials, webinars, recommended training or other recommended resource guides to Heather Hewitt at hhewitt@pa.gov. Please specify whether your recommendation addresses either labor or sex trafficking, or both.

The services can include, but are not limited to:

* Housing
* Advocacy
* Food/Clothing
* Legal Assistance
* Mental Health Care
* Immigration Assistance
* Education/Employment
* Drug & Alcohol Treatment
* Interpretation/Translation Services
* Culturally Specific Programs
* Individual/Group Counseling
* Other specialized services

We would like to provide the most comprehensive information available and depend on you to help us accomplish this goal.

[Return to top](#_top)

# OVC Funding Opportunities

Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/Solicitation.aspx?utm_source=newsfromovc&utm_medium=email&utm_content=ovc_solicitation_rollup_5.30.2018&utm_campaign=solicitation_2018) to view all opportunities.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Destroyed: How The Trashing Of Rape Kits Failed Victims And Jeopardizes Pubic Safety

Hours after you are raped, you sit in a hospital room, under fluorescent lights, and consent to a forensic exam. Your body is the crime scene. When did it happen, a nurse asks. Where did it happen? Can you tell me who did this to you? The nurse is trained to interview you and search your body for evidence left behind by your attacker. Knowing the details of your assault guides the examination. When the exam is over, the nurse puts hair, fibers, swabs, vials of blood and urine in a container smaller than a shoebox. She seals it — your rape kit — and entrusts it to a police officer. Please click [here](https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2018/11/investigates/police-destroyed-rapekits/index.html) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Labor Trafficking in the United States Part One: A Hard Truth

Every day, an estimated 16 million people in the world live this horrific reality as victims of forced labor. Working under force, fraud, coercion, and duress, these children, women, and men toil in industries of all kinds across the globe. In the United States, victims of labor trafficking often work and live in the shadows, “produc[ing] some of the food we eat and the clothes we wear… they have cleaned the buildings in which many of us live or work.” Please click [here](https://www.traffickingmatters.com/labor-trafficking-in-the-united-states-part-one-a-hard-truth/) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

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

The following trainings will be held on December 5, 2018

* Loss of Earnings Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on December 11, 2018

* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=107686623730216665) to register.
* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=107686586590702868) to register.

The following trainings will be held on December 20, 2018

* Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=106604463485103251) to register.
* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=107686675638922441) to register.
* Relocation Expenses Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=107686739474132248) to register.

DAVE WebEx trainings

* December 5, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. Register [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcopa.webex.com%2Fcopa%2Fk2%2Fj.php%3FMTID%3Dt9ffc28bc1aa25f2005815bf2537245a3&data=02%7C01%7Cdpotter%40pa.gov%7C2ce5bcf927f0414ddea008d61d64afd6%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636728715617349779&sdata=VYfe0cpDjmiOJqGczGa0vtSw78zScpJ%2B5OJzfpvHG48%3D&reserved=0) for this session.
* *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)

# Child Trafficking Training and Resources

Please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/Training/search-results?cat=CAT0000042#utm_source=CC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2018-12-3-%20Bucket%20CST%20-%20November%20%232) for information on upcoming Child Sex Trafficking training from the National Criminal Justice Training Center.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Webinar: Reduce Attrition Rates Of Sexual Assault Through Proper Charging Decisions And Effective Jury Selection

December 10, 2018

1:00 p.m. ET

This workshop will focus on the charging decision, the use of offender-based language in the courtroom, and effective jury selection with the goal of reducing the attrition of sexual assault cases in the criminal justice system.

The goal of voir dire (the questioning of prospective jurors) is to select a jury that can be fair to both sides and render a verdict based on the facts, not personal biases. In sexual assault cases, jury selection is also the opportunity to educate the jury about the myths of real rape; identify and strike jurors whose biases will interfere with their ability to render a fair verdict; and prepare the jury for difficult facts and the use of graphic terminology and evidence during the trial.

Through the use of interactive exercises, participants will gain the skills, knowledge and confidence necessary to make appropriate charging decisions and effectively select a jury in cases of sexual assault. This webinar will also equip participants with tools and knowledge to share with their colleagues in their own offices.

Please click here to [register](https://www.evawintl.org/WebinarRegistration.aspx?webinarid=1057).

[Return to top](#_top)

# Call For Proposals: KCIT’s Conscious Resiliency Conference – September 30-October 1, 2019

KCIT is asking for proposals that focus on community or individual crisis intervention, spiritual care, victim services, resiliency, best practices in the field, or self-care. Sessions will be 75 minutes.

Deadline for submission is **March 25, 2019**.  If you are selected, you will be notified by **April 25, 2019**.

At that time, you will need to submit your resume and any changes to the objectives by **May 28, 2019** to be submitted for CEUs.

PowerPoints and handouts to be given to participants will be due by **September 2, 2019**.

Please click [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KCITConference2019RFP) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Beyond The Breakthrough: 2019 National Sexual Assault Conference Call For Workshop Proposals

August 21-23, 2019

Marriott Philadelphia Downtown

Philadelphia, PA

The **National Sexual Assault Conference** (NSAC) is an annual conference that brings together over 1,000 people to share information, advance learning opportunities, and support professional growth to those who work to address the needs of survivors of sexual harassment, assault, and abuse, to raise awareness about these issues, and to prevent them from happening.

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center are excited to announce a call for workshop proposals for the 2019 National Sexual Assault Conference, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the Marriott Philadelphia Downtown. The theme of the conference is “Beyond the Breakthrough.”

Please click [here](http://endingsvtogether.pcar.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=1520.0) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PDAI Victim Services Trainings

**Crossing Bridges – A Juvenile Justice Training**

February 25, 2019

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Giant Community Center

2300 Linglestown Road

Harrisburg, PA 17110

Restorative justice is a term commonly used in conjunction with the juvenile justice system. Restorative Practices (the social science behind restorative justice) are designed to address harm, repair relationships and meet the needs of all parties involved. During this one-day training we will explore the continuum of practices that can be used within the context of the criminal/juvenile justice system to build restorative justice opportunities that serve both victims and offenders as well as the communities that surround them. Participants will have the opportunity to discern the similarities and differences of a continuum of restorative practices through role play and storytelling. Training participants will also explore how they can implement restorative practices in their personal and professional lives.

At the conclusion of this one-day training, participants will:

* Articulate the goals and foundational theories upon which restorative practices are built;
* Identify restorative justice best practices; and
* Recognize the value of restorative justice services for crime victims, communities and offenders.

Please click [here](http://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500111&RegType=ATT) to register.

*\*This training qualifies for 6 training hours through PCCD.*

[Return to top](#_top)

# Keystone Crisis Intervention Team: Death Notification Trainings

Death Notification can be part of anyone's job. It is not a fun task, but one that is so important to the survivors' healing. In this training, you will learn best practices in Death Notification as well as possible reactions by survivors and how to help.

March 7, 2019 (*snow date March 8th*)

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Luzerne County Community College

1333 S. Prospect Street

Nanticoke, PA 18643

Please click [here](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07efl5jdsoe3ce3966&oseq=&c=&ch=) to register. Training is provided free of cost.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Registration Now Open: 2019 International Conference On Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence And Increasing Access

April 22-25, 2019

Manchester Grand Hyatt

San Diego, CA

Our annual conferences focus on sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, human trafficking and elder abuse. We consistently bring together law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, victim advocates, judges, parole and probation officers, rape crisis workers, health care professionals, faith community members, educators, researchers and others in this three-day conference highlighting promising practices and emerging issues to effectively respond to these crimes in all of our communities.

With three full days of training offering 6 general session, a choice of 67 workshops and over 100 presenters, you are sure to learn something you can bring home and apply on the job. Moreover, with over 2,100 professionals expected to attend, you can anticipate countless opportunities to meet, rejuvenate and share ideas with other colleagues.

Don’t forget to sign up for one of our optional Post Conference Tracks. The 2019 Post Conference sessions will provide attendees an opportunity to participate in a full day course focused on either *Human Trafficking: Identification & Trauma Informed Response Best Practices,* or a course on *Self-Care in High Intensity Work.*

Please click [here](http://www.cvent.com/events/international-conference-on-sexual-assault-intimate-partner-violence-and-increasing-access/event-summary-3014a410ca1c4646ab3f6ca0ac31a3bb.aspx) to learn more and to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# KCIT Basic Crisis Response Trainings – Application Now Open

**April 23-26, 2019**

Uniontown, PA

This 25-hour training helps participants learn about crisis reactions after a trauma. Upon completion of this training, interested participants can apply to become KCIT volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact KCIT at info@kcitpa.org.

Please click [here](http://snip.ly/r3dxp0/#http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07efp9d0wa07a2daf9&llr=6nqn8gdab) to register.

The deadline for applications is **March 22, 2019**.  All applicants will be notified by April 1, 2019 if they were accepted into the training.

*\*This training qualifies for 25 training hours through PCCD.*

**June 3-6, 2019**

Gettysburg, PA

This 25-hour training helps participants learn about crisis reactions after a trauma. Upon completion of this training, interested participants can apply to become KCIT volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact KCIT at info@kcitpa.org.

Please click [here](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eflt62cvc15ea8ef&oseq=&c=&ch=) to register.

The deadline for applications is **May 3, 2019**.  All applicants will be notified by May 6, 2019 if they were accepted into the training.

*\*Training has been approved for 25 PCCD credits. Application for 25 CEU’s from the PA Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors is pending.*

[Return to top](#_top)

# Program Highlights

If your program is offering new or extended services, or implementing new initiatives that you would like to highlight, please submit your news article to Heather Hewitt at hhewitt@pa.gov.

[Return to top](#_top)

# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. 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 by Wednesday, December 12, 2018.

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.

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)