**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

February 1, 2018

In this Issue...

[Language Access Update To The Statewide Needs Assessment Victim Survey](#_Language_Access_Update)

[Statewide Victims’ Needs Assessment Survey Is Now Live!](#_Statewide_Victims’_Needs_1)

[Save The Date For The National Crime Victims’ Rights Rally!](#_Save_The_Date)

[Welcoming The New PA SAVIN & Victim Witness Training And Technical Assistance Consultant At PDAI](#_Welcoming_The_New)

[Opportunities With The Office Of Victim Advocate](#_Opportunities_With_The)

[Karen Baker Named New Chief Executive Officer Of PCAR/NSVRC](#_Karen_Baker_Named)

[Reminder to RASA/VOJO Programs – Tracking Clients for 2018](#_Reminder_to_RASA/VOJO)

[Compensation Corner – Verification Forms](#_Compensation_Corner_–_12)

[PCCD Approved Annual Trainings:](#_Scholarships_Available_For_5)

[Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings](#_Webinar:_What_You)

[The Difference Between Surviving And Not Surviving: Public Benefits Programs And Domestic And Sexual Violence Victims' Economic Security](#_The_Difference_Between)

[CAP Tips To Improve Public Awareness](#_CAP_Tips_To)

[Social Support Can Diminish Negative Effects Of Elder Abuse](#_Social_Support_Can)

[OVC: Youth Victimization Fact Sheet](#_OVC:_Youth_Victimization)

[Advoz: Mediation & Restorative Practices: Learn About Opportunities](#_Advoz:_Mediation_&_1)

[Advoz: 2018 Trainings Now Open](#_Advoz:_2018_Trainings)

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

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

[Save The Date: The Third Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Forensic Nursing Conference](#_Save_The_Date:_8)

[Scholarships Available For 2018 National Victim Service Conferences](#_Scholarships_Available_For_6)

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)

# Language Access Update To The Statewide Needs Assessment Victim Survey

The Qualtrics online victim survey was programmed to translate the survey into 17 languages, utilizing Google Translation services. Unfortunately, the translations were inadequate for our purposes. In response to concern from our partners and stakeholders, we are paying for professional translation and authentication services in six (6) languages: Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Korean, Vietnamese, and Nepali. Those online surveys should be available in Qualtrics by February 9, 2018. Once they become available, we will publish a notice on the [PA Crime Victims](http://pcv.pccd.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx) website and will send out a blast email to all stakeholders.

We are also purchasing translations of the victim survey flyer in Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Korean, Vietnamese, and Nepali, and will make those materials available on our PA Crime Victims website as they become available. We anticipate that will be no later than February 9, 2018.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and will be extending the survey for an additional two (2) weeks, until March 14, 2018, to compensate for the initial lack of access.

The current response to the victim survey has been disappointing, and therefore OVS is requesting that VOCA funded programs utilize the following strategy in recruiting victim survey participants with limited English proficiencies.

1. Where demand and capacity permit, Victim Service Providers should offer in-person assistance in completing the survey. This assistance will promote a stronger bond between victim and agency, and provide a wealth of knowledge as to victim service needs and preferences.
2. Victims can utilize one (1) of the six (6) Qualtrics professionally translated surveys.
3. Victim, through our funded programs, can utilize LanguageLine to complete the survey.
4. Victims can call OVS at the number listed on the [PA Crime Victims](http://pcv.pccd.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx) website to access our Propio language line to complete the survey.

We are finding that it is extremely difficult to engage any victim participation without meaningful personal contact. Therefore, we are asking all VOCA programs to include the Victim Survey in all of their current outreach and education activities and in serving their current clientele. The effort you put in today will determine the overall success of this project.

Thank you!

[Return to top](#_top)

# ****Statewide Victims’ Needs Assessment Survey Is Now Live!****

Both surveys are currently “live” and have begun to capture real data from respondents. Stakeholders and VSPs will soon receive a link from Qualtrics inviting them to complete the Stakeholder/Service Provider survey. Meanwhile, individuals who are interested in how the surveys look, but do not want their responses to unintentionally influence the actual data with random responses, should take caution before accessing the link. Please wait for the Qualtrics invitation to respond. If you do not want your response to influence the data, please enter the word “test” in the open text boxes to have your responses filtered out. While we appreciate your interest in the surveys, please keep these “test” responses to a minimum to avoid the extra work in the data analysis. All “test” responses will need to be manually removed from the results.

The Victims Survey looks identical to the Stakeholder/Service Provider survey in digital format with a different set of questions geared towards victims/survivors and members of their household who have been directly impacted by crime. A paper copy of the victims’ survey has been prepared for victims who do not have access to the digital version through a computer or mobile device, or those who simply wish to view the questions. You are welcome to review the paper version to see what the questions look like. Since the paper surveys are currently limited to English, and the responses must be entered manually, respondents are encouraged to use the digital version first. Victim Service Providers and other stakeholders can help increase the use of the digital version over paper versions by offering access to technology and/or assistance in completing the survey among their clients.

The paper version of the victim/survivor questions is available on the [PA Crime Victims](http://pcv.pccd.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx) website. The website can also be accessed to review the survey results once the results have been tabulated. Thank you for assisting us in this important survey.

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/AboutUs/Pages/Press%20Releases/Statewide-Victims-Needs-Assessment-Survey-Begins-in-Pennsylvania.aspx) to access the Press Release.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Save The Date For The National Crime Victims’ Rights Rally!

Expand The Circle, Reach All Victims

April 9, 2018 at 11:00am

Capitol Rotunda

Harrisburg, PA

Speakers:

* Human trafficking survivor
* Loved one affected by a domestic violence homicide
* Poet survivor

[Return to top](#_top)

# Welcoming The New PA SAVIN & Victim Witness Training And Technical Assistance Consultant At PDAI

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI) is happy to announce the addition of Jennifer Feicht as the new PA SAVIN and Victim Witness Training and Technical Assistance Consultant starting January 1,2018. Jennifer has spent the last 25+ years working in victim services in Pennsylvania in a variety of roles.

Jennifer started as a volunteer at a local rape crisis center and then became the Legal Advocate and Victim/Witness Coordinator. Jennifer continued as an Executive Director of dual agency.

In 2004, Jennifer became the Monitoring and Technical Assistance Consultant for PCCD. When the funding for this was reduced, Jennifer went to PCAR as a consultant working with the PA Department of Corrections on the Prison Rape Elimination Act and implementation throughout the Department.

In 2014, Jennifer received her certification from the Department of Justice as a PREA Auditor for adult detention facilities. In addition, Jennifer is a Department of Homeland Security certified PREA Auditor for ICE and CBP detention facilities.

Jennifer is very excited to be working specifically with victim service providers in Pennsylvania. For her, there is a sense of support in the victim services field in PA and she is happy to be back.

If you have any questions regarding PA SAVIN, or any trainings, including the Foundational Academy, developed for victim service staff, you may reach her at [jfeicht@embarqmail.com](mailto:jfeicht@embarqmail.com) or her business number (724) 679-7280.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Opportunities With The Office Of Victim Advocate

The Office of Victim Advocate has (2) Victim Assistance Coordinator positions available! These positions are filled through a Non-Civil Service process coordinated through the Bureau of State Employment (BSE). All applications must go through BSE's employment website at [www.employment.pa.gov](http://www.employment.pa.gov). To apply, click on “**Open Jobs**” and search for **“Victim Assistance Coordinator”.**  If interested, click on "**Apply**".  **The closing date for these positions is 2/7/2018.**

If you are not currently registered with NEOGOV, you may create an account and apply for this or any other listed category. Registration is free. If you have any questions during the application process, please contact the Bureau of State Employment at 717-787-5703.

If you have questions regarding the posting, please contact:  Diane Cline at (717) 728-3536 or via email at [dicline@pa.gov](mailto:dicline@pa.gov).

**\*Please feel free to share widely.**

[Return to top](#_top)

# Karen Baker Named New Chief Executive Officer Of PCAR/NSVRC

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center announced that Karen Baker will take the helm of the longest-standing anti-sexual assault coalition in the country on March 1. Baker will replace CEO Delilah Rumburg, who recently announced her retirement after serving PCAR/NSVRC for more than two decades. Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Karen%20Baker%20named%20new%20Chief%20Executive%20Officer%20of%20PCARNSVRC.pdf) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Reminder to RASA/VOJO Programs – Tracking Clients for 2018

Happy New Year!  As you begin tracking RASA/VOJO statistics for 2018, please remember ALL RASA and VOJO clients receiving services during the first reporting period of 2018 (January 1 – March 31) should be Tracked/Reported as NEW, even if these clients received services in previous reporting periods.

For example, if you have a Victim or Significant Other (SO) who received RASA/VOJO services in 2017, and they return for services in the first quarter of 2018, they will be counted as NEW again for the first quarter of 2018.  If that same client returns for additional services in the 2nd quarter of 2018, they will then be counted as Continuing for the 2nd quarter of 2018.  Or, let’s say the same client served in 2017 doesn’t return for services until the 3rd quarter of 2018, they would be counted as New at that time (in the 3rd quarter of 2018) since it will be the first time you provide services to them in 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Maria Katulis at [mkatulis@pa.gov](mailto:mkatulis@pa.gov) or 717.265.8741

Vicki McCloskey at [vmccloskey@pa.gov](mailto:vmccloskey@pa.gov) or 717.265.8746

[Return to top](#_top)

# Compensation Corner – Verification Forms

There are instances where the Program has to send a verification form to determine eligibility and to ensure the accuracy of all information received on a claim.  Verification may include contacting service providers, employers, funeral homes, etc. to receive proof that the medical expenses, loss of earnings, funeral expenses, etc. were a direct result of the crime.    Depending on the documentation that was submitted with the claim, the assigned claim specialist will determine what entities need to be contacted for further information and verification.  These forms must be sent directly to the provider and returned to the Program by the provider.  If the requested information is not received within 30 days of the initial request, the Program will do a second request for the information.  A letter is sent to the claimant and to the victim service program notifying them of the Program’s attempts to obtain the required information.  If you are wanting to help expedite the verification process you may want to reach out to the providers and ask them to complete the verification form and return it to the Program so that the claim process may proceed.  If you are the advocate assigned to the claim you may log into DAVE and see what verification forms were sent.  To see what verification forms were sent you go to the Documents – Required Documents screen in DAVE.  This is where you can see who verification forms were sent to.  If you would like to see the specific address the verification form was sent to you can go to Expenses – Bill Information.  Here you will find the listing of bills received by the Program.  If you click Edit you can see what address the verification form was sent to.  We typically send the form to the address that is on the documents that were submitted.  If you contact the provider and they did not receive the form you may want to ask if there is a different address it should be sent to or if there is a fax number or email address that it can be sent to.  Please notify the Program if you receive different contact information and we will be sure to send it to the provided contact information.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PCCD Approved Annual Trainings:

Webinar: Part 1: Dynamics and Impact on Victims

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm EST

*(Approved for 1.5 hours of PCCD Annual Training)*

To register, please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00006136/TRI0006137/sextortion-webinar-series?utm_source=CC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2018-1-23-%20MEC%20Webinar%20Sextortion%20series).

**Webinar: Part 2: What Is It and How Can We Respond?**

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm EST

*(Approved for 1.5 hours of PCCD Annual Training)*

To register, please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00006136/TRI0006139/sextortion-webinar-series?utm_source=CC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2018-1-23-%20MEC%20Webinar%20Sextortion%20series).

[Return to top](#_top)

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

The following trainings will be held on February 13, 2018

”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 trainings will be held on February 27, 2018

Loss of Earnings 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.

Motor Vehicle-Related 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 training will be held on March 7, 2018

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 March 15, 2018

Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Loss of Support 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.

* Transportation 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 March 22, 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.

Stolen Benefit Cash 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.

* *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)

# The Difference Between Surviving And Not Surviving: Public Benefits Programs And Domestic And Sexual Violence Victims' Economic Security

For domestic violence and sexual assault victims, the public benefits programs that support basic economic security are of critical importance. While we know that domestic violence and sexual assault occur across the socio-economic spectrum, there are unique challenges and barriers at the intersection of these forms of violence and economic disadvantage. Significant numbers of low-income women are abused or assaulted, and the violence perpetrated against them can make it nearly impossible to climb out of poverty. Abuse can also result in victims who were not previously considered low-income falling into poverty: violence often undermines victims’ ability to work, have a place to live, and do what is necessary to pursue a more stable life for themselves and their children. Poverty and economic instability can also make it more difficult to cope with the physical, psychological, and financial impacts of domestic violence and sexual assault. Please click [here](https://vawnet.org/material/difference-between-surviving-and-not-surviving-public-benefits-programs-and-domestic-and) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# CAP Tips To Improve Public Awareness

CAP TIPS are a series of periodic bulletins written to assist National Crime Victims' Rights Week Community Awareness Projects in the planning and implementation of their activities and events to increase public awareness of crime victims' rights and services. Please click [here](http://cap.navaa.org/captips.html) to view the CAP TIPS that have been developed for previous recipients of NCVRW Community Awareness Projects.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Social Support Can Diminish Negative Effects Of Elder Abuse

Elder abuse represents a serious and growing public safety and public health concern. Although elder abuse has been shown to have negative effects, very little is known about the possible consequences of elder abuse over time, particularly long-term outcomes. The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has been critically committed to expanding knowledge regarding this issue. Through NIJ’s involvement, we have not only been able to investigate the link between elder abuse and negative outcomes, but also on tangible solutions for victims, specifically what aspects of elder adults’ lives can be changed in prevention and intervention efforts. This article describes a series of studies that have pointed to the critical role that social support may play in preventing and ameliorating the negative effects of elder abuse. Please click [here](http://www.napsa-now.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/R2P-Park-Mulford.pdf) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# OVC: Youth Victimization Fact Sheet

Child, youth, and teen victimization is an important subset of crime. While children and youth are often victims of the same crimes as adults (e.g., theft, assault), they are also vulnerable to many other crimes including neglect, medical neglect, and psychological abuse. As a result of this and more stringent guidelines regarding data collection from minors, researchers often struggle to gather comprehensive data regarding childhood victimization. Age and lack of independence both contribute to higher levels of vulnerability among children, and certain environments pose a greater threat than others. Childhood exposure to victimization increases the probability of experiencing future victimization as well as multiple forms of victimization (polyvictimization). For more on youth victimization, see the School and Campus Crime fact sheet in this series. Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2017/images/en_artwork/Fact_Sheets/2017NCVRW_YouthVictimization_508.pdf) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Advoz: Mediation & Restorative Practices: Learn About Opportunities

Advoz: Mediation & Restorative Practices, invites the interested public to a free informational session on Friday, February 2nd at Benjamin Roberts in Lancaster, either Noon or 5 PM, to learn about its conflict resolution and restorative justices trainings, programs and volunteer opportunities. Through testimony, video and question-answer, learn why these programs helped to reconcile 1,000 youth last year and how you can be involved in “adding voice” for reconciling dialogue in the community in 2018.

Friday, February 2, 2018

Noon-1 pm *and* 5-6 PM

Benjamin Roberts, Ltd.

240 North Prince Street

Lancaster, PA

Learn more about Advoz’s reconciling dialogue work, why it matters to our community and how you could get involved such as:

* Mediating between conflicting neighbors, families and others in the community
* Facilitating restorative justice between victims and perpetrators of crime and violence
* Training youth and adults in constructive and restorative communication skills
* Organizing and assisting in community outreach, events or office support
* Bringing Advoz representatives to your company, congregation or other group

This one-hour info session, including testimony, video and question-and-answer time will be available at Noon and 5 PM. Participants will leave with a better understanding of how Advoz facilitates reconciling dialogue in the community and how they can be involved with some of the 1,000 youth and adults locally each year. The session is hosted by Advoz staff and volunteers, and co-sponsored by Benjamin Roberts Ltd.

**A light meal will be provided, so please RSVP with which session you plan to attend.**

Advoz’s mission is to transform conflict and build community through face-to-face dialogue programs. Advoz formed last year from the merger of long-serving Center for Community Peacemaking (LAVORP) and Conflict Resolution Services (Lancaster Mediation). For more about Advoz and its events see: [www.advoz.org](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.advoz.org&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C36c2dc9e705349d7e00808d5586e2b99%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636512152572614687&sdata=gifH%2Bj8KqgbBBzsBC%2BL2eAb8iyE4Z5OJwU6IAaPZ%2Fhw%3D&reserved=0).

To RSVP, please visit [www.advoz.org/events](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.advoz.org%2Fevents&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C36c2dc9e705349d7e00808d5586e2b99%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636512152572614687&sdata=wlJYKpYR0X0BlqYb3jIQfbtIqFtLMOC38M4zTcHYxCg%3D&reserved=0), or contact Mila at (717) 397-2404 or [program@advoz.org](mailto:program@advoz.org).

[Return to top](#_top)

# Advoz: 2018 Trainings Now Open

**Restorative Justice Victim-Offender Conferencing Training**

April 3-21, 2018 (35 hours)

Could you facilitate restorative justice and healing from conflict and crime? Advoz is training volunteers to facilitate face-to-face restorative justice with youth and adult offenders and those they’ve harmed. In addition to learning the conferencing process and practicing it through role plays, trainees will learn about the justice system, about victim’s rights and needs, ethics and communication skills.

Learn about the following topics:

• Victim-offender conferencing process

• Court and Probation Systems

• Victim rights and needs

• Ethics

• Communications tools

Practice being a facilitator through multiple role plays.

**Basic Mediation Training**

May 3-5, 9:00am – 5:00pm

Want to feel prepared to handle constructively conflicts that crop up in your personal and professional life? And help others in their conflict? This course introduces you to each stage of the mediation process and to practice being a mediator through multiple role plays.  The communication and conflict resolution skills that a mediator models will also be taught and practiced in the training.

Learn about and practice:

• Communication methods

• Conflict resolution skills

• The mediation process

• Ethics

Practice being a mediator through multiple role plays. Equips you for basic use of mediation in a personal and professional context. Advanced training and mentoring available afterward through Advoz.

Full fee of $475 includes training materials, lunch and refreshments, all led by experienced professional trainers. Discounts and scholarships available.

Save $50 when you register by March 30th. Registration deadline is April 26th. Members of PA Council of Mediators receive an additional $50 discount.  Please contact us to learn more about discount and scholarship opportunities.

Continuing education (CEU) is available for social workers, professional counselors and family therapists and continuing legal education (CLEs) is available for attorneys for an additional $50.

\*\*Early Bird Registration Discount Ends Friday, March 30!

To learn more about the trainings and register directly, please click [here](https://advoz.org/training/).

If you have any questions, please contact Angela Keen at 717.397.2404, or [angela@advoz.org](mailto:angela@advoz.org).

[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:** Kristina Anderson, a survivor of the Virginia Tech shooting and Frank DeAngelis, principal of Columbine High School at the time of the shooting.

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)

# 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)

# Save The Date: The Third Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Forensic Nursing Conference

Please join us on **Friday, June 1, 2018** for The Third Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Forensic Nursing Conference hosted by Abington Hospital – Jefferson Health and Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA)

**Topics**

* How Trauma, Victimization and Addiction Are All Connected
* From Depression to Psychosis: Strategies for Caring for Patients with Mental Illness during a Forensic Examination
* Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault and the Investigation and Prosecution of Cases
* The Benefits of Vulnerability Risk Assessment Toward Prevention of Workplace Violence
* Beyond the Basics: Assisting Commercially Sexually Exploited Children and Trafficked Adults
* Integrative Healing

**Speakers**

* **Jen Storm**, Victim Advocate of the Commonwealth of PA
* **Dr. Julie Valentine**, Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University College of Nursing
* **Dr. Marc LeBeau**, Senior Forensic Scientist of the Scientific Analysis Section of the FBI Laboratory, Quantico, Virginia
* **Dr. Paul Clement**, Clinical Professor, Drexel University - College of Nursing and Health Professions
* **Alexis Kreiger**, Victim Specialist, Philadelphia Division of the FBI
* **Dr. Astra Czerny**, Licensed Professional Counselor

Abington Jefferson Health

1200 Old York Road

Abington, PA 19001

8am – 4pm

*CEUs pending for Registered Nurses*

\*\* We would like to thank Aria Jefferson Health and Verizon for their support of this conference \*\*

[Return to top](#_top)

# ****Scholarships Available For 2018 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 2018 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. To view the Scholarship Application, please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/2018-pccd-scholarship-application1-2/).

[Return to top](#_top)

# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, February 14, 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](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov) by February 7, 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](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)