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*Chairman*

**Linda Rosenberg**

*Executive Director*

OVS NewsLetter

February 3, 2016

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw0306ld/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)
	+ [2016 Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute Victim Services Training](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2016%20Victim%20Services%20Training%20Save%20The%20Date.pdf)

# OVS Releases 2016 Monitoring Schedule

A copy of the OVS 2016 Monitoring Schedule is now available and has been placed on the PCCD website.  You can access the schedule by clicking [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2016%20OVS%20Monitoring%20Schedule%20by%20Staff.pdf).  For those VOCA funded programs that are governed by PCADV and/or PCAR standards and DO NOT receive RASA/VOJO funding or serve “Other” crime victims, desk monitorings have also been scheduled and are shown on this list shaded in blue.

How do I know the exact date I will be monitored?  The assigned PCCD staff monitor will be contacting you and together you can decide upon a date that is best for everyone.

What if I am not on the 2016 Monitoring Schedule and require technical assistance?  Technical assistance is available from PCCD staff.  Please contact Daisy Pagan, Victims’ Services Program Supervisor by calling (717) 265-8516 or by email at dpagan@pa.gov.

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# Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards

A Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award is the most prestigious award that Pennsylvania gives to a victim service professional or program. The award may be presented to one program and up to seven individuals who have made notable contributions to the program for which they work, the community they serve, or the field of victim services.

Since we know the importance, value, and benefit of the awards, they will continue. However, the process is slightly different on non-conference years. Normally, the awards would be presented at the Pathways Conference, however since the conference will not be held this year, the awards can be presented at an event of the nominator and winner’s preference in their own community.  This will provide an opportunity to have the award winners recognized in their own community where their elected officials, board members, family, friends and peers can easily attend.  The award presentations can be held anytime with the event being as small or large as you would like. It could be held during a local Victims’ Rights Week Event, at an Annual Board Meeting, a special event, a County Commissioners Meeting or a presentation at your office. The nominator is responsible for coordinating the event and notifying PCCD of the date and location. A PCCD staff member or a Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) member will attend the event to present the award to the recipient.

The selection process for recipients of the Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award is highly competitive. Therefore, to be considered, each nomination must meet the criteria and eligibility exactly as outlined.

Pathfinder nominations will be performed via an electronic submission process. We will notify you in the very near future when nominations may be submitted. In preparation, we encourage you to review the following documents on criteria and eligibility:

[Nomination Packet Requirements](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Nomination%20Packet%20Requirements%20revised%202016.pdf)

[Criteria and Eligibility for Award Categories](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Criteria%20and%20eligibility%20Revised%20feb%202016.pdf)

[Nomination Packet Checklist](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Nomination%20Packet%20Checklist%20Revised%20Feb%202016.pdf)

For questions regarding the nominations, contact:

Madelyn Roman-Scott

e-mail: mromanscot@pa.gov

Phone: (717) 265-8455

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

The following trainings will be held on February 3, 2016.

Loss of Support Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561667462&theAction=detail&confId=3561667462&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

Loss of Earnings Clinic – 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561667885&theAction=detail&confId=3561667885&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

The following trainings will be held on February 11, 2016

DAVE Training – 1:00 p.m. Click [here](https://copa.webex.com/cmp0401lsp13/webcomponents/calendar/calendar.do?siteurl=copa&serviceType=TC&prepared=true) to register.

The following trainings will be held on February 17, 2016.

Relocation Expenses Clinic (with Recent Updates) – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561668985&theAction=detail&confId=3561668985&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic – 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561669614&theAction=detail&confId=3561669614&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

The following trainings will be held on March 2, 2016.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561671102&theAction=detail&confId=3561671102&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

Myths of Compensation -1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561671478&theAction=detail&confId=3561671478&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) 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.

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# PDAI Victim Services Training News

Register Now!

Filing a Victim's Right Complaint

Online Training

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2016%20Victim%20Services%20Training%20Save%20The%20Date.pdf) to register.

Serving Victims Through the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy

Wednesday, March 23, 2016 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

The Center for Victims, 5916 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

To register or obtain more information please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm/event/info&id=313&reset=1).

April 2016 Foundational Academy

Wednesday, April 20 through Friday, April. 22, 2016

Atherton Hotel in State College, PA

To register or obtain more information please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm/event/info&id=309&reset=1).

**Please Note**: The CAC and Victim Service Agencies Working Together Training scheduled for Wednesday, March 10 has been postponed until Thursday, May 26, 2016. When the training is open for registration it will be announced in this newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact Donna Hull, Victim Services Training/ SAVIN Consultant at 484-947-4837 or donna@dhullconsulting.com.

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# Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum Facilitators Training

Wednesday, March 2, 2016 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Thursday, March 3, 2016 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Friday, March 4, 2016 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Participants must complete all three days to earn a certificate.

PCCD Approved Hours: 17.5

Chester County Justice Center

Domestic Relations Training Room, 3rd Floor

201 West Market Street

West Chester, PA 19380

To register, contact Charis Fisher, Juvenile Court Victim/Witness Project Coordinator, at 610-344-6720 or cfisher@chesco.org.

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# Best Practices for Serving Immigrant Survivors in Rural Areas

Tuesday, February 16, 2015 10AM-12PM

United Way Community Room

800 East King Street York, PA 17403

REGISTRATION IS FREE! To Register, please e-mail Sarah by clicking **here** or call 717-600-8099, ext. 209

This two-hour training will be presented by representatives from the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC). PCARworks to end sexual violence and advocates for the rights and needs of sexual assault victims by partnering with a network of rape crisis programs to bring help, hope and healing around issues of sexual violence to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The NSVRC's mission is to provide leadership in preventing and responding to sexual violence through collaboration, sharing and creating resources, and promoting research.  The NSVRC coordinates a range of special projects that address building collaborative and culturally specific approaches to preventing and responding to sexual violence, including The Rural Training Project, which focuses on the unique resource, training and technical assistance needs of rural communities.

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# PCADV Accepting Workshop Proposals

PCADV is **accepting workshop proposals** for their next conference to be held on Nov. 2-4, 2016, in Lancaster. This year they are seeking intermediate and advanced level presentations for their audience that reflect the theme: ***Celebrating the Past & Shaping the Future: PCADV’s 40th Anniversary***. The conference brings together coalition and program staff, volunteers and attorneys. Click [here](http://pubs.pcadv.net/training/2016%20Conference/Conferenceworkshopproposal_announcement_pcadv_01132016v7.pdf) for more information about the conference.

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# Mark Your Calendars

The Crime Victims Alliance of Pennsylvania (CVAP) has set the following general membership meeting dates for 2016:

Monday, March 14

Monday, May 9

Monday July 11

Monday, September 12

Monday, November 14

Each meeting will begin at 12:30pm. Please look for training topics to be announced that will be included with these meetings. All meetings are held at the Camp Hill Giant Community Center on Trindle Road in Camp Hill.

CVAP is comprised of several standing committees and we welcome all who are interested to join one of the following: Leadership and Development, Victims' Rights Rally, Legislative and Policy, Juvenile Justice, By Laws

Committees will meet in-person and by phone at 11am on the following dates:

Monday, March 14

Monday, May 9

Monday, June 13

Monday, July 11

Monday, August 8

Monday, September 12

Monday, October 17

Monday, November 14

Monday, December 12

Please contact Carol Lavery, CVAP Chair, at carollavery@outlook.com or Angela Keen, CVAP Vice Chair, atakeenbadjie@gmail.com for more information.

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# There's One Thing We All Can Do to End Domestic Violence

When a survivor is ready to seek help, a new set of obstacles arises: How will they support themselves financially? What will happen with family members? And, most immediate, how will they remove themselves safely from the situation? Click [here](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/alexandra-ostrow/theres-one-thing-we-all-c_b_8911934.html) to read more.

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# What is Complex PTSD?

Some mental health professionals make the distinction between the [diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)](http://ptsd.about.com/od/symptomsanddiagnosis/a/PTSDdiagnosis.htm) and Complex PTSD. Click [here](http://ptsd.about.com/od/ptsdbasics/a/ComplexPTSD.htm?utm_source=pinterest&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=mobilesharebutton2) to read about the difference.

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# As Cosby Case Shows, Sexual Assault Victims Need Time to Seek Justice

Click [here](http://lancasteronline.com/opinion/columnists/as-cosby-case-shows-sexual-assault-victims-need-time-to/article_f75af9a0-bae4-11e5-95f4-ffe996a4d330.html) to read an opinion piece from *Lancaster Online*. This piece was written by Kristen Houser of PCAR and NSVRC.

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# How to Release the Stress Stored in our Bodies

The Psoas Muscle, is a long muscle located on the side of the lumbar region of the [vertebral column](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vertebral_column) and brim of the [pelvis,](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lesser_pelvis) that is also known as the “muscle of the soul”. It is one of the largest muscles in the body and it is a place where we often store stress or trauma that can literally influence our mood and our outlook on life. Click [here](http://upliftconnect.com/release-the-stress/) to read more.

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# New Data on Why College Students Almost Never Report Sexual Assault

A 450-page report, released January 20, 2016 by the United States Department of Justice, details a survey of more than 50,000 college students in nine schools in the 2014-2015 academic year. Fifty-eight percent were female. The survey included a broad range of questions about sexual assault, and looked closely at how students report attacks—and why they often don’t. Click [here](http://qz.com/598104/new-data-on-why-college-students-almost-never-report-sexual-assault/) to read more.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, February 17, 2016. If you would like any training events, fund raisers or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov by Wednesday, February 10, 2016.

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 Stacie Brendlinger at (717) 265-8722 or via email at sbrendling@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)