**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

March 15, 2017

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/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)

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# Advoz: New Name, Expanded Mission, Familiar Work

**Who are we?**

Formed in 2017from the merger of **Conflict Resolution Services (**formerly Lancaster Mediation Center) and **Center for Community Peacemaking** (formerly LAVORP), providing similar services in different realms. CRS offered mediation as a meaningful low-case alternative to disputes and civil court proceedings. CCP used mediation methods to repair harm for crime victims and offenders, especially in the juvenile justice system.

**What does “Advoz” mean?**

Pronounced “ad-vōss” it comes from the Latin for “voice,” meaning “adding voice to dialogue.”

**Our expanded mission**:  *To transform conflict & build community through face-to-face dialogue programs*.

**How will Advoz “add voice” to the community?**

**Mediation**

Trained mediators help parties in a dispute to find their own resolution with the following specialties: *General Mediation* for all--neighbors, couples, families. *Divorce and Custody Mediation* for families. *Business Mediation* for landlords/tenants; real estate; business partners and more. *Elder Mediation* for seniors and families disputing care giving, estates, end-of-life care and more.

**Restorative Justice**

Restorative justice helps to repair the harm caused in crime through dialogue process including those harmed, those who’ve caused harm and affected community.  We continue to work with the Lancaster County Juvenile Court system and Youth Aid Panels throughout the county as well as a limited number of adult criminal cases, generally after sentencing, as additional community accountability and restorative response to wrong-doing.

**New Emphasis: Proactive Training and Restorative Schools**

We offer training to groups and individuals to learn theory, skills and techniques in healthy communication, conflict resolution and restorative practices. Our goal to empower others in our community to facilitate and transform conflict and harm when it arises in any given situation. Most recently, we’ve begun the Restorative Schools project to work with several schools to enhance community building and discipline where it’s most effective.

**How do we contact Advoz?**

You can contact Advoz staff at the number above, Monday thru Friday 9am-4pm or email:

* Chris Fitz, Executive Director, Community Engagement: chris@advoz.org
* Mila Pilz, Executive Director, Program Operations: mila@advoz.org
* Angela Keen, Restorative Justice Program Coordinator: angela@advoz.org
* Wendy Sundberg, Administrative Assistant: wendy@advoz.org

Our main offices are located at 53 North Duke Street, Suite 303, with a second office and meeting space in the Lancaster County Courthouse (50 North Duke Street) on the First Floor. See more information at: [www.advoz.org](http://www.advoz.org/) and on Facebook and Twitter @AdvozPA.

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# Advoz: Upcoming Events

**Training In Restorative Justice And Restorative Practices**

March 17 @ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

1st Presbyterian Church of Lancaster

140 E Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Understand the basics and applications of restorative approaches to discipline and community building. Learn and practice skills along a spectrum of restorative practices, both for personal, interpersonal and group use. Participants leave inspired with an understanding and practice in how to apply restorative practices in classroom situations and discipline.

This course is most useful for educators and youth workers. Prior introduction to restorative justice/practices recommended but not required.

For questions, call (717) 397 2404 or email events@advoz.org.

**Mediation Training – Basic**

April 6 - April 8

Sessions run Thursdays 1-5:30 pm, Fridays 8:30 am – 5:00 pm and Saturdays: 8:30-5 pm.

Emerald Foundation Community Campus

2120 Oregon Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601

Learn and practice interpersonal communication and conflict resolution skills through presentations, group discussions and role plays. Participants leave inspired and equipped with empowering skills that they can inject into their professional and personal settings. Learn how to consistently listen, clarify, summarize and move conversations forward in which all are heard and everyone contributes to the solution.

**Mediation Training – Module 2**

April 27 - April 30

Sessions run Thursdays 1-5:30 pm, Fridays 8:30 am – 5:00 pm and Saturdays: 8:30-5 pm.

1st Presbyterian Church of Lancaster

140 E Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Practice each step of the mediation process with discussion of topics like ethics. Participants practice their new skills by role playing three times as a mediator and one time as a disputant with outside role players. Participants leave empowered with a full set of skills to informally and formally mediate disputes and conflicts in participatory ways in which all are heard and everyone contributes to the solution. Successfully completing the course qualifies one for consideration as an Advoz volunteer mediator, contributing to community peace-building and gaining valuable experience that can translate to many other fields.

For more information, to view daily agendas and to register: [www.advoz.org](http://www.advoz.org).

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# Peace: The Next Generation With Dr. Arun Gandhi

Whether race, gender, age, culture, class or politics, we are being asked every day how we can build a culture of peace in a divisive world, especially for our youth and the generations to come.

We invite you to be part of the foundation of an event to build a culture of peace in the next generation in a conversation Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mohandas Gandhi and founder of the M.K. Institute for Nonviolence. The event will also recognize Scott LaMar, host of WITF’s Radio Smart Talk as recipient of the first Dignity in Dialogue Award. Musical guests will be father-daughter duet John and Helena Protopapas with sitar, violin and voice.

Kick-off Dinner for Center for Community Peacemaking & Conflict Resolution Services

On **Thursday, May 4, 2017**, Dr. Gandhi will speak at a dinner celebrating the merger of two long-standing community organizations, the Center for Community Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution Services. With an expected audience of 400-500 at the Spooky Nook Event Center, it promises to bring a diverse cross section of our community for a reception with silent auction, cultural arts presentation, buffet dinner and program featuring Dr. Gandhi.

Spooky Nook Olympic Hall

75 Champ Boulevard
Manheim, PA 17545

$65 Ticket Price per person, $125/pair and $450 for table of eight.

Sponsorships are also still available.

Learn more and order tickets online at: <https://advoz.org/event/around-the-table-with-arun-gandhi/>

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# Celebrate National Crime Victims’ Rights Week With NOVA

[National Crime Victims’ Rights Week](http://trynova.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c20da67c32a3e02e67cd08065&id=c368c7e223&e=b0be1ccaac) is April 2nd – 8th, 2017.

This year, NOVA is excited to announce our plans to honor victims’ rights and celebrate the advocates whose careers are dedicated to ensuring the rights and wellbeing of victims and survivors of crime and crisis. Please click [here](http://www.trynova.org/ncvrw/) to learn more.

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# Compensation Corner - Contribution/Denial Determinations

When a claim is being reviewed and the assigned staff person decides that a contribution assessment or a denial may be warranted, the claim is forwarded to a Claims Review Officer for review.

If the Claims Review Officer determines that the claim should be denied, a letter explaining the reason for the denial will be prepared and sent to the claimant and a copy to the advocate who assisted with the filing of the claim. If the claim is a homicide, a phone call is made to the claimant advising of such prior to mailing the denial.

If the Claims Review Officer determines that a claim should be reduced for contribution, an assessment amount is determined, and the claim is forwarded to Legal Counsel for review and advice. The claimant will be notified of the assessment in the Report and Determination (Award Decision).

If the Claims Review Officer determines that a claim should not be reduced for contribution or denied, the claim is returned to the assigned staff member to continue the processing of the claim.

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# Training Announcement: Fostering Positive Relationships With Law Enforcement

This is a great collaborative project between law enforcement and the local rape crisis center!

This module is intended for community members, caseworkers, advocates, and other social service members who have regular contact with the law enforcement officers. Participants are introduced to a general background of many police officers and offered explanations for their behaviors. The instruction provides participants with actionable resources to improve interactions with police officers in a variety of professional situations. Participants learn how to build rapport with law enforcement officers of all ranks and how to manage a situation where they encounter “a problem officer.” A series of common occurring obstacles are deconstructed and a variety of possible solutions offered. The module concludes with an interactive question and answers session.

Training Details:

April 4th, 2017 from 1:00 – 4:00pm

YWCA Lancaster

110 N. Lime Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

The fee is $60 per person. Please contact Lisa Cameron at lcameron@ywcalancaster.org to register.

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

The following trainings will be held on March 22, 2017.

* Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2989675745&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2989675745&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic - 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2989803516&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2989803516&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Loss of Support Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2989803539&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2989803539&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on March 28, 2017.

* Transportation Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2989803596&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2989803596&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on April 5, 2017.

* Basic Compensation - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2989803673&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2989803673&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2989803664&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2989803664&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following DAVE trainings will be held in 2017:

* 4/13/17 DAVE Training - 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 pm. Click [here](https://copa.webex.com/copa/k2/j.php?MTID=td9c1d44e1d75a3f47729076acc1f68f5) 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

**Registration is open for the following one-day training:**

**Supporting Victims of Elder Abuse**

March 16, 2017

Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office
Ray Harley Training Room

3 South Penn Square Philadelphia, PA

Registration for this training will begin at 8:30 and the training will be conducted from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Registration is $25.00 and you can register [here](http://www.pdaa.org/pdai-home/).

**April Foundational Academy**

April 19-21, 2017

*The registration for this training is now closed. If you would like to be placed on a waiting list, please email Donna R. Hull at* *donna@dhullconsulting.com**.*

* *For those who have already registered, the online independent study component is available*[*here*](http://www.pdaa.org/pdai-pa-savin/)*.*

**Pennsylvania Protection Acts – What You Need to Know**This training was recorded and is available [here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/recording/recordAction.do?siteurl=copa&theAction=poprecord&ecFlag=true&recordID=63440082&internalRecordTicket=4832534b00000003eb103354f4eb361883e036b9fcae5da65681ae0fab0072db754dcf0b69aa8852). The password to view this training is FEB#817.

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# The Children Who Saw Too Much

The night before his 17th birthday, Ryan slept under the stars. He nestled into his sleeping bag, the ground bumpy and hard at Curly Jack Campground, as the Klamath River, just steps away, flowed by. Sleeping under the stars at summer camp is a familiar experience for many, but not for Ryan. The teen was still adjusting to [life at Camp HOPE America](http://www.camphopeamerica.org/), the first summer camp established specifically for children exposed to domestic violence. He was one of 60 campers who ranged in age from 11 to 17. Although each child had his or her own unique history, the themes of their short lives overlapped: stress, fear, trauma, pain. They grew up in homes where they watched men beat their mothers, and homes where they were beaten for trying to intervene. As children, they learned to navigate a type of violence that’s unpredictable and ever-present, compounded by mental health issues, neglect, drugs and poverty. But for now they were away from all that, at a sleepaway camp in northern California in a forest of almost 2 million acres, with a bunch of strangers who were just like them – survivors. Please click [here](http://www.ryot.org/stories/the-children-who-saw-too-much) to read more.

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# Guns In Intimate Partner Violence: Comparing Incidents By Type Of Weapon

Guns figure prominently in the violent lives and deaths of women. An estimated 4.5 million U.S. women alive today have, at one time, been threatened with a gun held by their intimate partner. About 900,000 have been shot or shot at by an intimate partner. And when it comes to fatalities, women in the United States are more than twice as likely to be shot and killed by their male intimate as they are to be fatally shot, stabbed, bludgeoned, strangled, or killed in any other way by a stranger. Please click [here](http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/pdf/10.1089/jwh.2016.5832) to read more.

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# Getting Started With Mindfulness

What is mindfulness? Mindfulness is the basic human ability to be fully present, aware of where we are and what we’re doing, and not overly reactive or overwhelmed by what’s going on around us. While mindfulness is something we all naturally possess, it’s more readily available to us when we practice on a daily basis. Whenever you bring awareness to what you’re directly experiencing via your senses, or to your state of mind via your thoughts and emotions, you’re being mindful. And there’s growing research showing that when you train your brain to be mindful, you’re actually remodeling the physical structure of your brain. Please click [here](http://www.mindful.org/meditation/mindfulness-getting-started/) to learn more.

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# ****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 the purpose of 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.

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# Save The Date: Crime Victims’ Rights Rally

When: April 3, 2017 at 11 a.m.

Where: Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg, PA

*Please click* [*here*](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2017%20Crime%20Victims%20Rally%20Save%20the%20Date.pdf) *to view or print the Save the Date.*

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# Save The Date: 4th Annual Victims’ Rights Conference

Crime Victim Center is hosting our 2017 "Crime Victims' Rights Conference: Strength; Resilience; Justice" on Friday, April 28th, from 9am to 4:15pm, at the Bayfront Sheraton in Erie, PA. Seating is limited to the first 75 people to register.

This conference will host a range of amazing speakers in three breakout sessions, in addition to a speaking program during lunch.

Event Location:
**Bayfront Sheraton**

55 W Bay Rd,

Erie, PA 16507

For more information or to register, please click [here](http://www.cvcerie.org/education/2017-crime-victims-rights-conference/).

*Application has been made for continuing education credits for Nursing Home Administrator and Activity Professionals as well as Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors.*

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# Save The Date: The 14th Pathways For Victim Services Conference

OVS is pleased to announce the dates of the next Pathways for Victim Services Conference in 2017. The conference will be held in the spring of 2017 at the Hershey Lodge and Conference Center in Hershey, PA.

**Please mark your calendars for the following dates:**

Monday, May 8, 2017

Tuesday, May 9, 2017

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

OVS is very excited about the upcoming Pathways Conference and we look forward to seeing you there! For event details and to register online, please click [here](http://www.cvent.com/events/2017-pathways-for-victim-services-conference/event-summary-05b8d26fcfba40e784c80e6a28817877.aspx).

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# Save The Date: Second Annual Bucks, Montgomery, And Philadelphia County Regional Forensic Nursing Conference

Friday, May 12th, 2017

Abington Jefferson Health

1200 Old York Road

Abington, PA 19001

8:00am – 5:00pm

*Please click* [*here*](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event;jsessionid=C32844B09A3814F84D82D3100660108A.worker_registrant?llr=6nqn8gdab&oeidk=a07edn2kijc6204c134) *to register and view the agenda.*

**Topics Include**

Cultural and medical considerations for transgender individuals during a medical-forensic exam

Courtroom testimony techniques

Trends in forensic serology and DNA technology

Campus sexual assault

Sexual Assault: The police Investigation Perspective

Role of the forensic nurse coroner

Best practices in SANE case review and peer review

**Speakers Include**

* Dr. Rachel Levine, Physician General of Pennsylvania and Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry at the Penn State College of Medicine
* Ron Smith, forensic identification and investigation specialist
* Pennsylvania State Police Crime Lab
* Jonathan Kassa, Director of Higher Education for Allied Universal
* Pamela Gay, RN, York County, PA Coroner
* Jana French, Nursing Director of Washington DC Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program and International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) Board Member

*We will be applying for CEUs for Registered Nurses*

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# Save The Date: KCIT Basic Crisis Response Training

**June 19-22, 2017**

Country Inn & Suites by Carlson

State College, PA

Training Fee: $250 (*Fee includes hotel accommodations, training materials, breakfast and lunch each day*)

Application Deadline: May 12, 2017

Please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eczzpl4g2a84648b&llr=6nqn8gdab) to register and for more information.

This training is sponsored by the Keystone Crisis Intervention Team. KCIT provides crisis intervention services to victims of crime and their communities in the aftermath of a traumatic event in Pennsylvania.

This 25 hour course trains qualified individuals to work as a team with the goal of helping people in crisis cope with the physical, emotional, and behavioral reactions to trauma in the aftermath of a community crisis.

Please note: Completion of this application does not secure a seat in the training. You will be notified if you have been selected for this training course. All applicants will be notified by May 19, 2017 if they were accepted into the training. Decisions are based on several factors.

For more information or questions please contact: Michelle Kern, KCIT Coordinator at 215-343-6543, or by email at michelle@novabucks.org

* *This training has been approved for 25 PCCD training hours.*
* *This training has applied for approval by the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors for 25 CEUs.*
* *Funding for this project is made available in part through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD).*

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, March 29, 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 by March 22, 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.

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)