**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

March 28, 2018

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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)

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# Update On The Statewide Victims’ Needs Assessment Survey

The needs assessment questionnaires have officially closed as of March 15 and the research team is busy analyzing the results. As promised, results of the study will be posted on our website so that all who participated, as well as anyone else who is interested, can view this information. Preliminary results will be available statewide and by county by Wednesday, April 4, 2018. More extensive analytical results (estimation and inferential analysis) will be available in late May, and a final report of the overall study will be available by June 30, 2018.

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# OVS Releases 2018 Monitoring Schedule

A copy of the OVS 2018 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/Monitoring%20Schedule%20through%206-30-2018.pdf). 

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 2018 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](mailto:dpagan@pa.gov).

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# OVS Training For New VOCA Grantees

The Office of Victims’ Services will be offering an Introductory training to new VOCA grantees. Topics to be discussed include PCCD Standards, Policies & Procedures, VOCA Reporting Requirements, Program Monitoring, Civil Rights, Fiscal, ETO, and Available Resources. Three regional trainings have been scheduled.

April 17, 2018 – Pittsburgh, location to be determined

May 10, 2018 – Philadelphia, location to be determined

May 21, 2018 – Harrisburg, PCCD

To register for this training, please contact Keith Lightner at 717-265-8737.

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# Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards

Submissions are now being accepted for the 2018 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.

The awards 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 will be presented at an event of the nominator and winner’s preference. 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 may be held anytime. 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 the 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. To be considered, each nomination must meet the criteria and eligibility exactly as outlined. In preparation of your nomination, 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%20(2018).pdf)
* [Criteria and Eligibility for Award Categories](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Criteria%20and%20Eligibility%20for%20Award%20Categories.pdf)

[Submit your nomination](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.conferenceabstracts.com%2Fcfp2%2Flogin.asp%3FEventKey%3DFMDGMAAQ&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7Ceb2266ba09bd4325519808d588df43a8%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636565414852980632&sdata=L%2FALo23zD9k66c%2BLlnREx5s6U6%2BdQSifPSCRRlFo2zk%3D&reserved=0) today!

For questions regarding the nominations, please contact Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov) or 717-265-8730.

**The nomination period closes on Friday, May 4th at 11:59 p.m.**

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# A Reminder To All RASA And VOJO Programs:  5th Quarter Program Reports Due By April 20th!

Program reports for the 5th Quarter of the current 2017/2018 RASA and VOJO grants will need to be submitted in Egrants **by no later than Friday April 20th**:

RASA Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from January 1 – March 31, 2018

VOJO Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from January 1 – March 31, 2018

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**NOTE:  Please be reminded that all clients served should be counted as New again beginning in calendar year 2018, therefore, the RASA and VOJO Clients Served Sections in your quarterly reports for the period from January 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018 (5th Quarter of grant), should show the same number of New and Continuing Clients Served just as they did in the 1st Quarter program report in 2017.**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

Note:  Quarterly fiscal reports for RASA and VOJO grants for the same reporting period will also be due in Egrants by April 20th, 2018.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing your quarterly program reports, please contact Vicki McCloskey at [Vmccloskey@pa.gov](mailto:Vmccloskey@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8746, or Maria Katulis at [mkatulis@pa.gov](mailto:mkatulis@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8741.

For fiscal report questions, please contact the fiscal staff person listed on your grant.  For technical assistance with Egrants, please contact the Egrants Support Line at (717) 787-5887.

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# ATTENTION VOJO PROGRAMS - VOJO LAPSING FUNDS – PLEASE DON’T FORGET TO USE YOUR VOJO FUNDING BY DUE DATE OF JUNE 30, 2018!!!

Recipients of 2017 VOJO (VJ) and/or 2017 JRI (JV) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2017 VJ Award Amount      $ xx.xx

2017 VJ Project Period        7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018

                        And/Or

2017 JV Award Amount       $ xx.xx

2017 JV Project Period         7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018

**This is a reminder that *VOJO funds not expended or obligated from these funding sources by June 30, 2018 will lapse.***

**Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2018 should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2018.**

**It is the responsibility of the subgrantee to monitor these amounts.**

If you have any questions, or need to request a copy of your Award Letter, please contact the Fiscal Contact staff person listed on your VOJO grant.

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# Anticipated STOP Formula Grant Solicitations Coming April 2018!

Staff from the Office of Victims’ Services are preparing to release three competitive solicitations for STOP Formula Grant Funding in April 2018. The STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program is a grant program under the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) that supports communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective responses to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. It promotes a multidisciplinary approach to improve the civil, criminal and juvenile justice systems’ response to these crimes and to enhance investigation and prosecution of offenders as well as advocacy and services available to victims.

These three solicitations fit within the current goals and objectives outlined in Pennsylvania’s STOP Implementation Plan as approved by the Office on Violence Against Women. You may view the Implementation Plan [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/finaldraftplan%204.24.17.pdf).

**Statewide STOP Competitive Solicitation**

The first solicitation is the regular STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Competitive Solicitation. A STOP program must be supported by team members from law enforcement, prosecution and victim service programs who agree to work together on goals and objectives aimed at reducing violence against women. This competitive solicitation will be open to all Pennsylvania counties. The project period will be for **TWO** years, and programs may request funding up to $125,000 per year. PCCD anticipates funding up to 30 counties under this announcement. Counties will be required to have established STOP Coordinating Teams, be working towards or have established response protocols for domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, and propose projects that fall within one or more of the 10 Federal Purpose Areas outlined in Pennsylvania’s Implementation Plan. Special scoring incentive will be provided for those applicants who strive to reach underserved, culturally specific populations and actively engage with local cultural organizations. There is a federal mandate in the award that at least ten percent of all STOP funded projects serve these populations.

**STOP Rural Project Capacity Building Solicitation**

Pennsylvania is a geographically diverse state, with over a quarter of its population residing in areas that are considered “rural.” The federal guidelines governing STOP require states to equitably distribute monies on a geographic basis including nonurban and rural areas of varying geographic size. While the STOP Formula Grant Program has been implemented in Pennsylvania for over two decades, some rural counties in the state have never been able to secure a STOP grant.

The STOP Project Rural Capacity Building Solicitation will be open to those counties that meet the definition of rural, as defined by the Pennsylvania legislature, and who 1) have not had STOP Formula Grant Funding ever before or 2) Have not had STOP funding since 2010, when the funding announcements initiated a competitive process.

Under the rural solicitation, PCCD expects to fund up to four rural counties that have lacked the capacity to form a full cross-system collaboration which is currently required by the general STOP funding solicitations. Rural counties who can demonstrate a need and the ability to improve their systemic response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and/or dating violence are eligible to apply for these grants. Successful applicants under the STOP Rural Solicitation must agree to participate in the following:

* Technical Assistance facilitated through PCCD for STOP collaborative team formation, policy and procedure development and response protocol development;
* Regional quarterly conference calls with other local STOP funded projects to discuss, emerging trends, initiatives and opportunities for greater collaboration.

The selected rural grantees who can meet the goals and objectives specified in the proposed project timeline during this two-year capacity building project period, will automatically become part of the next four-year STOP Formula Grant Project Cycle.

**Model Human Trafficking Pilot Project**

PCCD currently provides STOP and federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding to over 30 different projects that indicate that they provide services to victims of human trafficking. This is in addition to anti-trafficking efforts funded by alternate sources.

Through this competitive solicitation, PCCD will select one jurisdiction in the state to develop a model community-wide, collaborative response to sex trafficking of youth (ages 11-17) and adults. This solicitation will call for the development of a multi-tiered collaborative team to include 1) a leadership team responsible for the project and model protocol development; 2) a multi-disciplinary Steering Committee to set goals and objectives, oversee policy and engage in collaborative problem solving; and a workgroup of direct service providers who will provide feedback on the feasibility of proposals and policies/protocols developed by the Steering Committee and assist in the implementation/ testing process .

The successful applicant under this solicitation must agree to participate in quarterly conference calls facilitated by PCCD and an advisory team of state and national experts. The team will monitor the progress of the pilot program and assist in the development of model protocols, standards and cross training initiatives.

At the end of this project, PCCD anticipates that the applicant will have developed model response protocols for victims of sex trafficking; a set of guidelines, standards, and best practices for operation of a model anti-human trafficking program. The trainings and tools developed will be shared with all PCCD funded human trafficking programs.

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# PCCD STOP Grantee Meeting 2018

All current STOP Formula Grant Project Directors should be on the lookout for an email from PCCD within the next week containing the link to register for the STOP Grantee Meeting to be held May 8-9, 2018 at the Best Western Premier in Harrisburg.

Each county is encouraged to send up to three representatives from its STOP Collaborating Team to the meeting. The representatives must be from different disciplines (i.e. law enforcement, prosecution, victim services or other required members such as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, sheriff, or underserved populations representative. All three team members from each county will be reimbursed for overnight accommodations at the hotel, mileage and subsistence.

The meeting will feature nationally recognized speakers on forensic experiential interviewing and sustainable collaboration building. Additionally, a number of workshops on responses to violence against women crimes; improving services to underserved populations and team building will be available to attendees on a rotating basis.

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# New VOCA Grantees: PCCD Approved CLE Training

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.

The following is just a preview of the sessions that will be offered at the 2018 VOCA Grantee Training. Once the agenda and presenters have been finalized we will send out the full agenda.

* VOCA Grantee Restrictions
* Current Developments in PFA Law/Strangulation Bill/Current Caselaw
* Trauma Informed Advocacy
* PFAs and PSVI/ Stalking
* Custody/Divorce and Children’s Advocacy Centers
* Immigration & Human Trafficking/Language Access and Being Culturally Informed
* Working with Law Enforcement and District Attorney’s Offices/Victim Impact Statements
* Unique Features of Representing Elderly Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault/Power of Attorney
* Victims of Crime Compensation/ Resources and Legal Rights
* Effectively Getting Child(ren) Through Courtroom Testimony
* Counseling the Client as a Whole/Strategies Regarding PFA Cases and Related Relief Including Retaining Utility Services, Public Benefits and Special Rights for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

We will be offering 11 Continuing Education Credits, two of which will be Ethics credits for both full days of training.  Attendance is free.  The event is open to all VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) recipients who assist in providing legal services to victims of crime.

If you are interested in participating in the training and receiving 10 hours of free CLE credits, you can register at: [Registration VOCA Grantee Training 2018](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F2018-VOCA-Training&data=02%7C01%7Cvmcmahon%40pa.gov%7C2c5c9d1e95204e9d80ab08d58a8b7ef5%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C1%7C636567254109060359&sdata=ebN5kP7SLlufi2YJfQNpODIroawIDQ5l6x7H%2Fne9PZk%3D&reserved=0)

For additional information on this training, please contact Kelly Bock Yeckley at [kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net](mailto:kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net) or at 717.236.9486 x 201.

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# Foundational Academy Registration Is Now Open!

Foundational Academy Training for New Victim Advocates

April 25-27, 2018

The Atherton Hotel

125 S. Atherton St.  
State College, PA 16801

**Who Should Attend?**

This training is designed to provide a solid foundation for all new staff who provide services to victims at PCCD funded Victim Service Programs.  **New advocates are required to attend/complete the Foundational Academy Training (classroom and online component)** if they:

* Are providing the Prosecutor’s or Chief Juvenile Probation Officer’s responsibilities/victim services under the Crime Victims Act – all RASA and VOJO funded programs;
* Are providing victim services at VOCA funded programs not affiliated with State Coalitions;
* Are providing victim services at VOCA funded programs who serve victims of “Other” Crimes.

**Course Information:**  There are important skills that all Victim Advocates need to have in order to provide the best services possible to those victims and survivors you work with every day.  Some of the topics that will be covered in this training are:  Your Role as a Victim Advocate, PCCD Program Standards, Confidentiality, Ethics, the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP), Diversity and Special Populations, the Criminal Justice System, and more.

Don’t miss this great opportunity! Please click [here](http://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500045&RegType=ATT) to register.

If you have any questions regarding the Foundational Academy, please contact Jennifer L. Feicht, Victim/Witness TTA Consultant at [jfeicht@embarqmail.com](mailto:jfeicht@embarqmail.com) or (724) 679-7280.

If you have any training questions in general, please contact Vicki McCloskey (PCCD) at [vmccloskey@pa.gov](mailto:vmccloskey@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8746.

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# ****FY 2018 National SAKI Solicitation Released****

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking applications for funding to address the issue and impact of unsubmitted sexual assault kits (SAKs) at law enforcement agencies. This program furthers the Department’s mission by improving: 1) state and local jurisdictions’ capacities to respond to violent crime; and 2) the functioning of the criminal justice system, including the investigation and prosecution of cases related to SAKs’ evidence and the collection of lawfully owed DNA. Please click [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsakitta.us13.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Dee5523512411738bf07923a86%26id%3D7c2b2dbf75%26e%3D2aafd1c890&data=02%7C01%7Cdrollo%40pa.gov%7C360b624d290a487bdf7108d589c4a90c%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636566400166277793&sdata=y4eo7ahFTw60Gf0mBY%2BdR7RF4eA1ZiYRmi7NC2ioljg%3D&reserved=0) for more information.

If you have any questions about the FY 2018 SAKI solicitation, please contact Angela Williamson, BJA Senior Policy Advisor, at [Angela.Williamson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Angela.Williamson@usdoj.gov) or (202) 307-5831.

**Applications are due April 30, 2018.**

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# OJJDP Announces New Funding Opportunity

Court Appointed Special Advocates Membership, Accreditation, and Subgrants Program and Training and Technical Assistance.

This program will expand the national membership and accreditation program for state and local Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) and make available training and technical assistance to support existing and new local and state CASA programs across the nation and CASA services in communities where representation rates are low, the numbers of abused and neglected children are high, and service systems do not meet the needs of families and children. In addition, the program will provide training and technical assistance in volunteer advocate recruitment and retention, volunteer advocate training, diversity, data collection and reporting, sustainability, and program standards.

For FAQs, please click [here](https://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2018/FAQ/CASA.pdf).

To view the funding announcement, please click [here](https://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2018/CASA.pdf).

**All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time (ET) on April 23, 2018.**

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

The following trainings will be held on April 3, 2018

 Myths of Compensation - 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=88607741502827556) 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=88608043750665281) to register.

The following trainings will be held on April 11, 2018

”Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 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=88608107197901900) to register.

Funeral & Burial 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=88608541422660929) to register.

The following trainings will be held on April 17, 2018

Loss of Earnings 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=88608756876717402) to register.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime 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=88608850064715111) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 1, 2018

Relocation 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=88609123693768067) to register.

Crime Scene Cleanup 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=88609205211114889) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 9, 2018

 Loss of Support 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=88609339333422790) to register.

 Transportation 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=88609396440968912) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 17, 2018

Stolen Benefit Cash 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=88609464590020308) 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=88609522441006812) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 21, 2018

Basic Compensation - 10:00 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=88609609311334118) to register.

”Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 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=88609544428596959) to register.

DAVE WebEx trainings

* 6/28/2018 at 1:00 p.m. [Click here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcopa.webex.com%2Fcopa%2Fk2%2Fj.php%3FMTID%3Dta7e2da0e346e56da0299a270258de53d&data=02%7C01%7Cdpotter%40pa.gov%7C21bfb1c2eb934e2b048908d57557e5c6%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636543942737135253&sdata=RxCJ%2BZaR%2FqRnh7OgjfFnGsyD0PE7%2BE%2FVNewqy6mBgOM%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.*

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# NEW PCCD Approved Annual Trainings:

**Coordinated Community Response to Incidents of Mass Violence: Lessons Learned from Las Vegas and Orlando**

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

**12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. EST**

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

To register, please click [here](https://events-na12.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1313134141/en/events/event/shared/default_template_simple/event_registration.html?sco-id=1842280993&_charset_=utf-8)

Strangulation Webinar

Thursday, May 10, 2018

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

*(Approved for 1.0 hour of PCCD Annual Training)*

In this webinar, Rachel Haynes Pinsker, JD, Legal Services Manager of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, will explore the lethality of strangulation, a common form of abuse in intimate partner relationships. She will examine Pennsylvania’s strangulation law which makes it a felony to strangle an intimate partner and will also identify resources and services for victims of intimate partner violence.

Objectives:

1. Recognize danger and lethality strangulation poses.

2. Identify forms of strangulation.

3. Understand Pennsylvania’s strangulation law.

4. Identify resources and services available for victims of domestic violence.

To register, please click [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcopa.webex.com%2Fcopa%2Fonstage%2Fg.php%3FMTID%3De6307d10c94ad922851fe467378bb2b0e&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C5c757887c641450b886e08d5942085ea%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C1%7C636577789771435745&sdata=aNDDpd3kM51qXBRTwjYfn5n9ycsXS%2FBuaMZH61C2MgQ%3D&reserved=0).

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# ****Engaging Survivors Of Commercial Sexual Exploitation In The Search For Justice****

The Villanova Law Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation will host cross-disciplinary workshops and discussions aimed at engaging the survivor community in the search for justice on April 5 and 6, 2018. Workshops will be led by survivors and will encourage participants to engage in problem-solving scenarios on a variety of relevant topics and current issues in legislation, law enforcement and education.

**Thursday April 5 - Friday April 6, 2018**

**The Inn at Villanova University**

610 County Line Road

Radnor, PA

Please click [here](https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/law/newsroom/webstories/2018/0228.html?mc_cid=3ca59b0c81&mc_eid=96c118aff1) for more for more information.

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# HAVIN Presents: LT. Daniel Rincon: Training Institute On Strangulation Prevention

Strangulation is one of the most dangerous forms of physical violence that occurs in the context of intimate partner violence cases. An abuser’s attempt to strangle the victim can be a dramatic predictor of future lethality in intimate partner violence cases. Recognizing how serious a crime strangulation is for victims of intimate partner violence and child abuse, the PA legislature enacted the new crime of strangulation that took effect on December 26, 2016. This crime amends Title 18 of the crime code by adding Section 2718, the strangulation offense, which now allows prosecutors to charge defendants with the crime of strangulation. This training will address the basics of investigation, documentation, prosecution and advocacy of near‐fatal strangulation cases and explore an integrated approach to responding to near‐fatal strangulation cases.

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Belmont Complex

415 Butler Rd

Kittanning, PA 16201

Registration and Continental Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Training

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

*Pending 7 hours of CLEE are available for municipal police officers through MPOETC.*

For more information, please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Training%20Institute%20on%20Strangulation%20Prevention.pdf).

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# The 2018 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Resource Guide

OVC is pleased to present the **2018 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week (NCVRW) Resource Guide**. This annual suite of resources includes a variety of user-friendly sample materials, current statistics, professional artwork, and tutorials—all designed to help you quickly and capably develop and implement public awareness campaigns for NCVRW and throughout the year. NCVRW will be commemorated April 8–14, 2018. This year’s theme – **Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims.** – emphasizes the importance of inclusion in victim services. The theme addresses how the crime victims field can better ensure that every crime victim has access to services and support and how professionals, organizations, and communities can work in tandem to reach all victims. Join OVC and communities across the United States this April to raise awareness of victims’ rights and services, highlight local programs, celebrate progress achieved, and honor victims and the professionals who serve them. Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2018/?utm_source=ncvrw&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rg_release_3.5&utm_campaign=ncvrw_2018&ed2f26df2d9c416fbddddd2330a778c6=qonrmlioip-qlzrnaie) for more information.

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# OVC: Urban & Rural Crime Fact Sheet

While national-level crime statistics provide important information regarding overall crime trends, they cannot yet demonstrate differences in crime and victimization at the sub-national level. For instance, reporting local data through the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is voluntary, making it difficult to isolate factors contributing to crime. The Bureau of Justice Statistics has recognized the need for sub-national victimization data, and is working to estimate crime at the state and local levels. Currently, results from the UCR and the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) indicate that cities with a larger population generally have higher crime rates than suburban or rural cities. While differences in crime rates may be related to population size, they may also be caused by other local factors. For example, rural policing agencies may have organizational, resource-related, or technological differences compared to their urban and suburban counterparts, resulting in underreported crime and victimization. For more about the UCR and NCVS, see the Crime and Victimization in the United States fact sheet in this series. Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2017/images/en_artwork/Fact_Sheets/2017NCVRW_UrbanRural_508.pdf) to read more.

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# Remember My Name Project

In 1994, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in conjunction with Ms. Magazine started the Remember My Name™ project. This project was developed to create a national registry of victims who have lost their lives to domestic violence and to increase public awareness about domestic violence. Twenty years later, NCADV continues to honor this legacy by collecting names and information submitted by family and friends to produce an annual honorarium poster during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. If you would like to submit a name and information for inclusion in the registry and honorarium poster, please click [here](http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/e8m0fM6db7hNbcr49IBR7) to complete the form.

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# Creating And Sustaining A Positive And Communal School Climate: Contemporary Research, Present Obstacles, And Future Directions

The Comprehensive School Safety Initiative (CSSI) is a research-focused initiative that brings together the nation’s best minds to increase the safety of schools nationwide. The initiative was a response to disturbing, high-profile incidents of school violence. Schools are mostly safe places — but when violence does occur, it can have far-reaching ramifications. CSSI is an investment in developing knowledge about the root causes of school violence, developing strategies for increasing school safety, and rigorously evaluating innovative school safety strategies through pilot programs.

CSSI projects aim to:

1. Identify and understand the potential root causes and consequences of school violence and its impact on school safety.
2. Increase the safety of schools nationwide by developing a solid foundation of knowledge and best practices that can be sustainably implemented through individualized school safety programs, policies, and activities.
3. Help identify matters internal and external to the school that may result in harm to students, teachers, staff, and schools.
4. Implement programs, policies, and practices that improve school safety and climate, focus on the school environment, or enhance educational and other outcomes for students and schools.
5. Identify effective strategies to respond to and resolve safety issues faced by schools and students.
6. In collaboration with key partners from education, law enforcement, behavioral/mental health, and social work, develop and test a comprehensive framework for school safety.

The initiative is focused on K-12 public schools, including public charter schools. CSSI projects require close collaborations between educators, researchers, and other stakeholders in the school community to ask the right questions, prioritize challenges, identify solutions, collect data, and make sense of the findings. Please click [here](https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/250209.pdf?ed2f26df2d9c416fbddddd2330a778c6=ixtkabetkx-icgktefa) to read more.

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# Workplaces Respond To Domestic & Sexual Violence: A National Resource Center

The #MeToo and #TimesUp movements demonstrate the overdue need for employers to shift toward prevention and culture change to make safer, more respectful, and more equitable workplace environments in which all employees can thrive. In solidarity with these movements, [Workplaces Respond](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ffvpf.convio.net%2Fsite%2FR%3Fi%3D4AKn-pw1J1cXomqZR1Gd3g&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C0d36a7b41c864a294c1e08d58e7bec7d%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636571585266145062&sdata=cO37XmVNGDCbhP38HWfuA5G7g3bajAD0hHqUxAFaw2M%3D&reserved=0) is pleased to enhance its prevention-oriented resources to help employers, survivors, coworkers, and advocates change workplace culture to better prevent and respond to sexual harassment and violence.

The new National Resource Hub interactive tools include:

* Referrals to supportive services and legal resources;
* Fact sheets and research on the prevalence and impacts of workplace sexual harassment and violence;
* Access to “Top Ten” lists to help victims, employers, unions, and men address sexual harassment in the workplace;
* “Decision Trees” to help guide victims and coworkers through important initial considerations when confronting sexual harassment in the workplace;
* Model Workplace Training modules that adopt cutting-edge adult learning approaches to shift the training paradigm away from liability prevention and toward workplace equity and accountability; and
* A "How-To" guide to help employers develop workplace climate surveys in order to assess their workplace and employee’s experiences and needs.

Please visit [www.workplacesrespond.org/harassment](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ffvpf.convio.net%2Fsite%2FR%3Fi%3Dly-M9M6TmcX9-0B-MBUfEg&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C0d36a7b41c864a294c1e08d58e7bec7d%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636571585266145062&sdata=5rGWLDUovr1VnKBs8GYu5TueDcWnddOmt7Zor70%2Bjq0%3D&reserved=0). The site will continue to be updated as we develop more resources and tools.

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# BWJP: Training Opportunities

**Promising Strategies and Practices in Medical Forensic Compliance**  
**Thursday, March 29, 2018 / 2-3:30 p.m. CT**  
https://gallery.mailchimp.com/554dc701fd0b3a38d610ccc2c/images/6f33d9f1-7c6d-414e-92a4-3a77af88b41d.gifThis webinar will outline the key components of medical forensic compliance and what a compassionate and competent response to victims/survivors can look like. Challenges that many communities face with medical forensic compliance will be explored such as medical forensic exam access and quality, kit storage and testing, and statewide coordination issues. We will share what we have learned through our Statewide Medical Forensic Policy Program and some promising strategies and practices in medical forensic compliance.

**Please click** [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-promising-strategies-practices-medical-forensic-compliance.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=7ffda98af1-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_03_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-7ffda98af1-132881353) **to register.**

**Current Research on Batterer Intervention Programs and Implications for Policy**

**Thursday, April 5, 2018 / 2-3:30 p.m. CT**

This webinar reviews existing research on Batterer Intervention Programs (BIPs). We will discuss the methodological and definitional bases for contradictory results about the efficacy of BIPs. We will define meta-analyses and present their results. Various models and innovations will be described. The goal of the webinar is to present clearly what we know about whether BIPs work and which aspects of programs are most strongly supported by research, emphasizing the importance of social contexts and real-world pragmatism.

**Please click** [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-research-bip-implications-policy.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=998edec824-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_03_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-998edec824-132881353) **to register**

**Promising Community Practices: The High At-Risk Team, Bristol County, Massachusetts**

**Thursday, April 26, 2018 / 2-3:30 p.m. CT**

The High At-Risk Team (HART) program of Bristol County, MA is an innovative community effort to focus resources on the most dangerous and repeat domestic violence offenders in order to keep victims safe. Assistant District Attorney Courtney Cahill will describe how she launched the program in Bristol County and how the high-risk offender list was established. She will detail the ways in which various system practitioners from advocacy to probation are able to use the list to hold these offenders accountable. She will also share innovative strategies for sharing information and collaborating among partners.

Please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-promising-community-practices-HART-Bristol-MA.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=998edec824-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_03_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-998edec824-132881353) to register.

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# Campus Safety – Roundtables Across The State

862 Pennsylvanians between the ages of 15 and 24 died from drug overdoses in 2016… 1,700 college students die each year from alcohol-related injuries… One in five young adults experiences a mental health condition… Students of college age are at higher risk for sexual violence than other age groups…

In 2017 Attorney General Josh Shapiro launched a campus safety initiative bringing students, university leaders, health professionals and law enforcement together to address drug and alcohol abuse, mental health and sexual assault on university campuses. Community-based roundtables were held at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University. This Spring the series of roundtables will continue across the Commonwealth; taking place at Lincoln University, University of Pittsburgh, and Dickinson College.  These roundtables will once again bring together students, victim advocates, survivors, local law enforcement, college and university staff, and experts from different fields. In collaborative working groups, participants will identify strategies and promote responses that are survivor-centered and trauma-informed.

We’re calling out to everyone who has a stake in these critical issues to bring their knowledge and expertise to the table. The conversation must be community-driven to be effective, and we’re looking for a broad, diverse group of individuals from a wide range of backgrounds to participate in our upcoming roundtables.

Roundtables will take place at Lincoln University on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, University of Pittsburgh on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, and Dickinson College on Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

[Lincoln University](https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Lincoln_University_Registration_2018.pdf), Tuesday, April 3, 2018 – Registration closes March 28, 2018

[University of Pittsburgh](https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/University_Pittsburgh_Registration_2018.pdf), Wednesday, April 25, 2018 – Registration closes April 19, 2018

[Dickinson College](https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Dickinson_College_Registration_2018.pdf),  Wednesday, May 16, 2018 – Registration closes May 10, 2018

For more information, please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Campus%20Safety%20Announcement.pdf).

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# Save The Date For The State 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

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# Speak Up! Break The Silence!

Saturday, April 21, 2018

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Temple University – Shusterman Hall

1834 Liacouras Walk

Philadelphia, PA 19121

FREE event for ages 14 & older; HIV & breast cancer screening; food; parking!

Live Music and Entertainment

Workshops Topics:

* Healthy Relationships
* Financial Literacy
* College/Career Readiness
* Positive Parenting
* Health Wellness

Keynote Speaker: Lena Cohen, Emotional Intelligence Navigator, Author & Coach.

For more information, please contact NCVS at 215-763-3280. To register for tickets, please text WEC18 to 41444

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# 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).

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# Save The Date: PCADV’s Progress Through Unity Conference

**When: October 24-26, 2018**

**Where: Eden Resort, Lancaster, PA**

**Request for Proposals / Conference Speakers**

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) seeks proposals for “Progress Through Unity,” our biennial statewide conference. This year, the theme of our conference focuses on collectively creating and sustaining healthy communities. Since celebrating PCADV’s 40th anniversary in 2016, we realize the need for progression and innovation in domestic violence advocacy and prevention work. Using the tracks of **Safe, Healthy, Inclusive**, and **Just**, we are in search of new and progressive workshops that address community conditions, norms and root factors in efforts to end and prevent domestic violence.

**Click** [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/93K3Z23?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=297b7bb2-8cc2-43c6-9624-b42cba252636) **submit your completed proposal.** For additional information, please contact [2018conference@pcadv.org](mailto:2018conference@pcadv.org).

**Deadline for Submission:** April 30, 2018

**More details** about the Progress Through Unity Conference, as well as registration details, will be available soon.

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# 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.

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# 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

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Cost: $50.00 (includes breakfast and lunch)

*Nursing CEUs to be awarded for successful completion of the conference*

Please click [here](http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=426b1f47-8bc0-4a31-bef5-65ce6ccd42f7&preview=true&m=1102962934205&id=preview) to register.

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

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# Summer Peacebuilding Institute

Just Outcomes is instructing at the Summer Peacebuilding Institute from June 8 – 10, 2018, at the Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia. You can strengthen your restorative justice program development, leadership, and facilitation skills through a deepened understanding and orientation toward the needs of crime victims and survivors. Learn about the intersection between trauma recovery, victim assistance and restorative justice. Develop new strategies for program implementation and service delivery. Just Outcomes hope you can join them in June! Please click [here](http://createsend.com/t/y-2DBEC060F961CF51) to learn more,

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# ****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/).

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, April 11, 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 Wednesday, April 4, 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)