**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

May 11, 2017

In this Issue...

* [Pathways for Victims Services](#_Pathways_for_Victims)
* [Training Announcement for Law Enforcement and Prosecutors](#_Training_Announcement_for)
* [Last Call For KCIT Basic Crisis Response Training Applications](#_Last_Call_For)
* [Answering The Call To Service: The Mark Hudson Story](#_Answering_The_Call)
* [ATTENTION ALL VOJO PROGRAMS - Reminder Of VOJO Lapsing Funds](#_Victim_Survivor_Scholarships)
* [Vicarious Trauma Toolkit](#_Vicarious_Trauma_Toolkit)
* [PCCD’s Capacity Building Portal](#_PCCD’s_Capacity_Building)
* [Number Of Untested Rape Kits Decreases In Pennsylvania](#_Number_Of_Untested)
* [Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings](#_Executive_Search_For)
* [PDAI Training News](#_PDAI_Training:_Serving)
* [Scholarships Available For 2017 National Victim Service Conferences](#_Option_B_Helps)
* [Save The Date: Second Annual Bucks, Montgomery, And Philadelphia County Regional Forensic Nursing Conference](#_Advoz:_Upcoming_Events_4)
* [Save The Date: 2017 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network VOCA Grantee Training](#_Save_The_Date:_10)

Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6)Compensation Related: Basic, Advanced-Counseling, Transportation Expenses, Restitution and much more!

Credits towards VOCA/RASA/VOJO training requirements are available for all sessions (unless indicated otherwise in the session description). To receive training credits: 1) you must be logged into the session and 2) the WebEx application must be on your computer for the entire duration of the session. As the OVS recognizes that emergencies may arise and you may not be able to attend the entire session, there is no prohibition against attending part of a session (although training credits will not be given in that instance).

* + [Training/Networking Opportunities](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/OVS-Training-Networking-Opportunities.aspx)
  + [Additional RASA/VOJO/VOCA Approved Training](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/RASA-VOCA-VOJO-Trainings.aspx)

[Return to top](#_top)

# Pathways for Victims Services

Thank you to everyone who attended and/or presented at the 2017 Pathways Conference. The past three days were filled with inspiring stories, informative workshops, and comradery. We had a great turn out, being the first year in many that the Conference has sold out! We’re looking forward to 2019!

[Return to top](#_top)

# Training Announcement for Law Enforcement and Prosecutors

Investigating & Prosecuting Sexual Abuse in Correctional Settings: PREA & Prison Sexual Abuse Dynamics Training for Law Enforcement & Prosecutors

Wednesday, May 31st, 2017

9:00AM-4:00PM  
215 Innovation Boulevard

State College, PA 16803

Registration: In this free training, space is limited. Please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=c5204418-e80b-4a46-9e80-0aba03b53185) to register.

Lodging: Overnight accommodation will be offered on a first come basis for attendees who meet certain criteria. Others can use a discount code after registration. Please see [registration site](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=c5204418-e80b-4a46-9e80-0aba03b53185) for more information.

This training is intended for law enforcement and prosecutors, however, allied professionals working to end sexual abuse in incarceration are also welcome.

In working to end sexual abuse in correctional settings, law enforcement and prosecutorial responses to prison sexual assault are just as critical as institutional and community responses. The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) outlines criminal justice collaboration in efforts to address and prevent further perpetration. In this training law enforcement and prosecutors will gain an overview of PREA, understand the dynamics of sexual abuse in confinement, tools for investigations, and practices for prosecution. After this training, you will:

1. Gain an understanding of PREA standards, specifically related to criminal investigations and prosecution.
2. Be able to identify dynamics of prison culture and corrections, and how it contributes to institutional sexual abuse and delayed or underreporting of abuse.
3. Learn tools to improve investigations of prison sexual abuse.
4. Learn practices to more effectively prosecute sexual abuse in correctional settings.

This training is presented by:

Viktoria Kristiansson (JD), Attorney Advisor, Aequitas

Patrick Zirpoli, retired Pennsylvania State Police

This training is hosted by:

the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape

For questions about **registration**, please contact Erin Levine, Database and Training Assistant, at [elevine@pcar.org](mailto:elevine@pcar.org) or 717-728-9740 x 106.

For questions about **the training**, please contact Kayla Houser, Outreach Coordinator, at [knhouser@pcar.org](mailto:knhouser@pcar.org) or 717-728-9740 x 117.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Last Call For KCIT Basic Crisis Response Training Applications

**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](mailto: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).*

[Return to top](#_top)

# Answering The Call To Service: The Mark Hudson Story

Please join the Lutheran Settlement House for a screening of “Answering the Call to Service: The Mark Hudson Story”. This short documentary takes a close look at how the life of Mark Hudson, a 26-year old police officer and fire fighter, was tragically cut short as a result of domestic violence and how domestic violence affects too many men in our communities. The screening will be followed by a panel about how domestic violence affects men and the making of the documentary.

Wednesday, May 24th

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Lutheran Settlement House

1340 Frankford Avenue

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19125

[Return to top](#_top)

# ATTENTION ALL VOJO PROGRAMS - Reminder Of VOJO Lapsing Funds

Recipients of 2016 VOJO (VJ) and/or 2016 JRI (JV) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2016 VJ Award Amount $ xx.xx

2016 VJ Project Period 1/1/2017 - 6/30-2017

And/or

2016 JV Award Amount $ xx.xx

2016 JV Project Period 1/1/2017 - 6/30/2017

This is a reminder that VOJO funds not expended or obligated from these funding sources by June 30, 2017 will lapse.

**Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2017 should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2017**.

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

If you have any questions, please contact the Fiscal Contact staff person listed on your VOJO grant.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Vicarious Trauma Toolkit

It takes courage to help child and adult victims of sexual abuse, assist survivors of acts of terrorism and mass violence, fight fires that may have taken people's lives, or respond to shootings and other crime scenes. It also takes commitment to do this work despite the personal, physical, emotional, and mental impact it can have. The Vicarious Trauma Toolkit (VTT) was developed on the premise that exposure to the traumatic experiences of other people—known as **vicarious trauma**—is an inevitable occupational challenge for the fields of victim services, emergency medical services, fire services, law enforcement, and other allied professionals; however, organizations can mitigate the potentially negative effects of trauma exposure by becoming vicarious trauma-informed. The VTT includes tools and resources tailored specifically to these fields that provide the knowledge and skills necessary for organizations to address the [vicarious trauma](https://vtt.ovc.ojp.gov/glossary#vicarious-trauma) needs of their staff. Please click [here](https://vtt.ovc.ojp.gov/) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PCCD’s Capacity Building Portal

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency has a Capacity Building Portal that has many resources on organizational management, compliance, grant funding strategies, board development and more. Learn more by clicking [here](https://pacapacity.net/Default.aspx).

[Return to top](#_top)

# Number Of Untested Rape Kits Decreases In Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Auditor General Eugene DePasquale said despite the fact that the number of backlogged rape kits in the state has dropped nearly 700 from 2015 to 2016, more work needs to be done. “Sexual assault victims deserve justice and testing the kits provides them a chance for justice. And that’s exactly what testing these kits can provide for them.” Please click [here](http://abc27.com/2017/05/02/number-of-untested-rape-kits-decreases-in-pennsylvania/) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

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

The following training will be held on May 17, 2017.

* Loss of Earnings Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3200/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2998666752&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2998666752&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on May 23, 2017.

* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3200/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2998666814&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2998666814&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 25, 2017.

* Basic Compensation - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3200/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2998666820&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2998666820&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3200/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2998666815&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2998666815&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on May 30, 2017.

* Loss of Support Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3200/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2998666760&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2998666760&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

DAVE Webex trainings

* 7/12/16 at 9:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/copa/k2/j.php?MTID=t0d91e8959b72b1a95883b383ee7d79d3) to register.
* 9/27/16 at 1:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/copa/k2/j.php?MTID=tef133ecf43d85106dc13453189188af9) to register.

* *All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation which counts towards 2 and DAVE training which counts towards 2.15.*

[Return to top](#_top)

# PDAI Training News

**Supporting LGBTQ Victims**

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Butler County Library

218 N. McKean Street

Butler, PA 15129

Presenter: Dr. Kelly Clark from the Q Center at Binghamton University  
Cost: $25.00  
Pizza will be provided for lunch at this training and scholarships are available.

**Serving LGBTQ Victims**

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Butler Area Library

218 N McKean Street

Butler, PA 16001

Registration for all trainings will be on the PDAA website at <http://www.pdaa.org/>, please click on the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute.

The registration fee for one-day trainings is $25.00. No food or beverages will be provided at one-day trainings unless otherwise posted.

[Return to top](#_top)

# ****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.

[Return to top](#_top)

# 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*

[Return to top](#_top)

# Save The Date: 2017 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network VOCA Grantee Training

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 8:00am – 5:15pm  
Thursday, June 8, 2017 8:00am – 3:15pm

The Harrisburg Crowne Plaza  
23 South Second Street

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Please plan to join us on June 7 & 8, 2017 for the 2017 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network VOCA Grantee Training. This training is targeted to all new VOCA Grantees but we welcome all of the Domestic Violence Advocates Community of PA. This training will fulfill the requirements of the 10 hour mandatory VOCA Grantee training but is not just relevant for VOCA Grantees. It was developed in consultation with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. The training agenda will include sessions on:

* Trauma Informed Advocacy.
* Vicarious Trauma to providers of services.
* Confidentiality and Mandated Reporting, Identifying Conflicts of Interest, Referrals and Competent Representation.
* Unique Features of Representing Child and Elderly Victims of Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Including Child Advocacy Centers. The Intersection of Civil Legal Proceedings and Child Protective Services Law.
* Immigration/U-Visas/Language Access/Interpreters, Being Culturally Informed, Including the LGBTQ Community.
* Current Developments in the PFA Law, Strangulation Bill, and Court Decisions Impacting Representation in PFA and PVSI cases, Addressing Temporary Protection Orders In Light of Court Requirements of Due Process. This session will also include discussion of VOCA restrictions on activities including accessibility and off-site delivery.
* A general session on Representing Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.
* Victim-Centered Services In the Context of Petitions Being Filed Directly by the Victim, Sometimes with Advocacy by Shelters, Followed by Appearance of Lawyers, Working from Pleadings Already Filed, and Indirect Criminal Contempt.
* Access to Court Records and Presenting Special Evidence in Court (Rules of Evidence/Social Media).
* Counseling the Client As A Whole, Strategies Regarding PFA Cases and Related Relief Including Custody, Support, Retaining Utility Services, Housing, and Damages/Special Rights for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

*At least 2 Ethics hours and 8 Substantive CLE Credits will be offered (At no cost to attendees)*

Please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ee07v3vd6d03ca3e&llr=7mhlfkqab) to register online.

For questions contact Kelly Bock Yeckley at [kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net](mailto:kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net) or 717-236-9486, ext. 201.

[Return to top](#_top)

# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, May 24, 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](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov) by May 17, 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](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)