**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

July 19, 2017

In this Issue...

* [Anticipated Additional VOCA Funding](#_Anticipated_Additional_VOCA)
* [To All RASA & VOJO Programs - IMPORTANT MESSAGE](#_To_All_RASA)
* [Friendly Reminder To All VOJO And RASA Programs: 2nd Quarter Program Reports Due July 20, 2017!](#_2017_Governor’s_Victim)
* [ATTENTION ALL VOJO PROGRAMS - Reminder Of VOJO Lapsing Funds](#_New_Victim_Service)
* [Compensation Corner – PA Resident Injured/killed In An Act Of International Terrorism](#_Compensation_Corner_–_6)
* [Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings](#_Compensation_Corner_–_5)
* [Consumers Can Take Steps To Avoid Deceptive, Expensive ‘Easy Money’ Loans](#_Consumers_Can_Take)
* [PDAI Victim Services Training News](#_PDAI_Victim_Services_1)
* [OVC Is Awarding Funding To Establish A Mass Violence Center](#_OVC_Is_Awarding)
* [Leave No Victim Behind 2017 Conference Mass Violence Response](#_Leave_No_Victim)
* [Model Response To Sexual Violence For Prosecutors (RSVP): An Invitation To Lead](#_Model_Response_To)
* [Post-Conviction Advocacy For Survivors Of Human Trafficking: A Guide For Attorneys](#_Post-Conviction_Advocacy_For)
* [Responding To Transgender Victims Of Sexual Assault](#_Responding_To_Transgender)
* [A Courtroom For All: Creating Child & Adolescent-Fair Courtrooms](#_A_Courtroom_For)
* [Collaboration And Grant Writing Techniques For Victim Services Agencies To Apply For VOCA Grants](#_Collaboration_And_Grant)
* [Training Announcement: Adults In Trauma: TLC STARR Curriculum Training](#_Meet_The_Guardians)
* [SART Conference - Modern Day Slavery: Human Trafficking In Our Neighborhoods](#_SART_Conference_-_1)
* [Webinar: How Language Helps Shape Our Response To Sexual Violence](#_Webinar:_How_Language_1)
* [Training Opportunity: Providing Linguistically Accessible & Responsive Sexual Assault Services](#_Webinar:_Taking_Action:)
* [Scholarships Available For 2017 National Victim Service Conferences](#_Combating_Witness_Intimidation_1)

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)

# Anticipated Additional VOCA Funding

The cap on the federal Crime Victims Fund was lifted in late 2014, resulting in an unprecedented increase in the state annual allocations for VOCA funding. For Pennsylvania, the annual VOCA allocation increased from $17M in 2014 to $77M in 2015, $82M in 2016 and $71M in 2017. Projections for FY 2018 are anticipated to be equal to 2017 or higher.

The Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, which provides oversight to the federal Crime Victims Fund, also published new guidelines for the VOCA Grant Program in 2016.  The guidelines identified new and expanded VOCA eligible services to allow states greater flexibility in providing a broader range of services to crime victims.

On May 2, 2017, our Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) recommended we release a competitive funding announcement to implement those services and to generally strengthen the capacity of our existing programs. It is anticipated that the new competitive VOCA funding announcement will be released in August 2017, and will include new VOCA eligible services. This competitive funding announcement will be open to new and existing victim service programs. Potential applicants are encouraged to register with [PCCD’s Egrants system](https://www.pccdegrants.pa.gov/Egrants/Public/Subscribe.aspx) to receive notification when the funding announcement is released.

[Return to top](#_top)

# To All RASA & VOJO Programs - IMPORTANT MESSAGE

As we enter the 3rd quarter of the 2017-2018 RASA/VOJO grants, we would like to take this time to remind all programs who receive RASA and VOJO funding that you should have your RASA and VOJO tracking tools updated with the **new RASA/VOJO reporting requirement information that went into effect January 1, 2017**, and hopefully you are starting to feel comfortable with the process of counting New and Continuing victims and significant others, as well as with tracking the new Victimization Types, Demographic Information, and all of the services you provide to clients.

**If for some reason, your program has not yet updated your RASA/VOJO tracking tools, please do so as soon as possible**.  Tracking of this information is a **requirement of the grants** and it must be entered in the quarterly program reports.  Please be aware that you will also need to have this information available if your program should be selected for a random monitoring.

If you have any questions about this process or need assistance, 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.

Thank you for your continued dedication and service to victims and their loved ones.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Friendly Reminder To All VOJO And RASA Programs:  2nd Quarter Program Reports Due July 20, 2017!

The following program reports for the 2nd quarter of the current VOJO and RASA grants will need to be submitted in Egrants **by July 20th**:

**VOJO Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from April 1 – June 30, 2017**

**RASA Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from April 1 – June 30, 2017**

Note:  Quarterly fiscal reports for VOJO and RASA grants will also be due in Egrants by July 20, 2017.

If you should have any questions or need assistance completing your 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.  If you need technical assistance with Egrants, you may contact the Egrants Support Line at (717) 787-5887.

[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)

# Compensation Corner – PA Resident Injured/killed In An Act Of International Terrorism

A Pennsylvania resident who is injured or killed in a foreign country that does not have a compensation program is eligible to apply for VCAP.

The following countries have a compensation program:Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Trinidad and Tobago.

If you are working with a Pennsylvania resident who is injured or killed in an act ofinternational terrorism, make sure to look into helping that person file for compensation through the International Terrorism Victim Expense Reimbursement Program (ITVERP) offered through the Office for Victims of Crime in the Office of Justice Programs. The ITVERP may have other benefits and higher maximums than the Pennsylvania program. For more information, go to the Office for Victims of Crime website at [www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov) or call 800-363-0441.

[Return to top](#_top)

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

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

* Loss of Support Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633236329&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633236329&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633236303&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633236303&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

DAVE Webex trainings

* 9/27/17 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)

# Consumers Can Take Steps To Avoid Deceptive, Expensive ‘Easy Money’ Loans

The Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities advises consumers to avoid deceptive “easy money” loans from unlicensed, out-of-state lenders that promise fast, hassle-free money for emergencies or other unexpected needs. These loans range from $100 to $1,000, although some go higher. Including interest and fees, these loans demand that you pay 300 to 1,000 annual percent interest (APR), which is unlawful in Pennsylvania. Consumers can call the department at 1-800-PA-BANKS or 1-800-600-0007 to ask questions or file complaints about financial transactions, companies, or products. Organizations can email [informed@pa.gov](mailto:informed@pa.gov) to request training or presentations.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PDAI Victim Services Training News

Social Media’s Impact on Youth Under 17

September 12, 2017

Giant County Center

2300 Linglestown Road

Harrisburg, PA

Registration will begin at 8:30 am. The course will begin at 9:00 am and end at 4:30 pm.

Technology has become an integral part of Americans’ daily lives. As we have become increasingly more reliant and absorbed in technology, it is no surprise that today’s children have also become avid users. Laptops are being developed for children as young as 5. Smart phones are now in the hands of children as young as 10. The Kaiser Family Foundation found in their 2010 Survey on media use among 8-18-year olds that this group spends an average of 10 hours and forty-five minutes per day exposed to media. To fully understand pros and cons of media and the effect on youth development we must understand how youth are using media and the possible harmful impact of social media on children. Finally, as victim advocates we must know how to respond and provide appropriate resources to youth who have been harmed by social media as well as the possible criminal justice implications.

Please complete the attached [registration form](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Social%20Media%20Impact%20Brochure%20%20%20September%2012%20%202017.docx) and mail fax, or email it to Donna Hull. All registrations must reach Donna no later than September 8, 2017. The cost of registration is $25.00. Please make the check payable to PDAI and mail to:

Donna R. Hull

806 West Market Street

West Chester, PA 19382

(Phone) 484-947-4837 (Fax) 888-486-5134

(Email) [donna@dhullconsulting.com](mailto:donna@dhullconsulting.com)

[Return to top](#_top)

# ****OVC Is Awarding Funding To Establish A Mass Violence Center****

OVC recognizes that federal, state, local, and tribal government and organizations must become better prepared to appropriately plan for, respond to, and fully support victims and communities affected by, mass violence. This preparation includes gathering necessary knowledge, skills, and evidence-based strategies.

Through the [Mass Violence and Victimization Resources Center](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fn1.m.tt%2Fa%2Ftuleexkjcz-qoelemplm.html%3Fmp_hash%3DE9C6AE184053834F6EAB2A848349AB0E19C4F96976B5A26810621FEAF8E21345&data=02%7C01%7Cmromanscot%40pa.gov%7Cf1f52d757a42496ebfd408d4beefa4d8%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636343383861462946&sdata=ZJThpBSDqkPv0LdTmLUIYiHXSFp0rml5LLqZre3GZdU%3D&reserved=0) solicitation, the goal is to establish a Mass Violence Center (MVC) to gather and share information to improve responses to these tragic events. Working collaboratively with OVC, the successful applicant will develop a national victim-centric framework, applicable to various jurisdictions, which addresses best practices in preparing for and responding to incidents of mass violence and domestic terrorism. The MVC will help jurisdictions through training and technical assistance, identifying/creating best practices, and expanding expertise in this field.

**Deadline: August 9, 2017**

Please click [here](https://ojp.gov/ovc/grants/pdftxt/FY2017-MV-Center_Competitive%20Solicitation_508.pdf?utm_source=newsfromovc&utm_medium=email&utm_content=mass_violence_center&utm_campaign=solicitation_2017&ed2f26df2d9c416fbddddd2330a778c6=mluqqvxkns-mlsxsiqxi) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# **[Leave No Victim Behind 2017 Conference](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcenter.uocsdev.com%2Fuosafety%2F2017%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cmromanscot%40pa.gov%7Ccdaf0c289aaa4dd2589108d4cd442089%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636359139873557336&sdata=Oo%2FI4tBEt4vtcisPPlDpcx%2FYBkCj%2Bzr%2B0uaZHdhHlaI%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank) **[Mass Violence Response](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcenter.uocsdev.com%2Fuosafety%2F2017%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cmromanscot%40pa.gov%7Ccdaf0c289aaa4dd2589108d4cd442089%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636359139873557336&sdata=Oo%2FI4tBEt4vtcisPPlDpcx%2FYBkCj%2Bzr%2B0uaZHdhHlaI%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank)****

The California Victim Compensation Board and the University of Oregon Police Department are hosting a conference on September 12–14, in Eugene, Oregon, that will focus on responding to incidents of mass violence, with an emphasis on developing effective collaborations between law enforcement and victim services to reach all victims, including those who are often underserved.

Conference speakers include responders to the Boston Marathon bombing and shooting incidents at the Orlando Pulse nightclub, the AME church in Charleston, Sandy Hook Elementary School, the Sikh temple in Wisconsin, U.C. Santa Barbara, Umpqua Community College, and Virginia Tech. They will discuss how they responded, effective practices, lessons learned, and how to prepare for future incidents. In addition, members of the FBI will facilitate a tabletop exercise, and staff from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) at the U.S. Department of Justice will introduce their Mass Violence and Vicarious Trauma Toolkits. One of the keynote speakers will be Brandon Wolf, a survivor of the Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando, who lost two of his best friends during the attack.   
  
Click [here](http://center.uocsdev.com/uosafety/2017/) to learn more about the conference and review the full agenda.   
  
OVC is supporting professional development scholarships for this conference on a first-come, first-served basis. Click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/downloads/docs/howWeCanHelp/OfficeOfVictimsofCrimeProfessionalDevelopmentScholarshipApplication_508c_062917_DM.docx) to access the application. **Please note that the deadline for scholarship applications is July 27, 2017.**   
  
For additional information, please contact Anita Ahuja at the California Victim Compensation Board at [anita.ahuja@victims.ca.gov](mailto:anita.ahuja@victims.ca.gov).

[Return to top](#_top)

# Model Response To Sexual Violence For Prosecutors (RSVP):  An Invitation To Lead

Supported by funding from theU.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, the comprehensive and newly published document *Model Response to Sexual Violence for Prosecutors (RSVP*) is available at:

<http://www.aequitasresource.org/Model-Response-to-Sexual-Violence-for-Prosecutors-RSVP-An-Invitation-to-Lead.pdf>

The RSVP Model provides a performance management systemwith a tool for offices and individual prosecutors to measure their effectiveness in achieving the intended outcomes, and proposes a method of routine evaluation of prosecution practices that can be refined as necessary in response to evolving research, emerging issues, or changing conditions in a jurisdiction. The RSVP Model is intended to serve as a comprehensive tool for making decisions on office policy and individual cases of sexual violence.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Post-Conviction Advocacy For Survivors Of Human Trafficking: A Guide For Attorneys

The crime of human trafficking occurs throughout and across the United States. With increased awareness of the prevalence and characteristics of human trafficking, many state governments and law enforcement officials now recognize that victims are not consistently or accurately identified. Instead, “authorities often fail to properly screen and identify victims of human trafficking when they detain or arrest criminal suspects. This can result in a second victimization when victims are punished for their engagement in the crimes their traffickers forced them to commit.”1 The approach of treating victims as criminals also increases the prevalence of human trafficking by allowing perpetrators to use the threat of criminalization as way to coerce victims. Please click [here](https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/human_rights/SRP/Practice%20Guide-%20Post-Conviction%20Advocacy%20for%20Survivors%20of%20Human%20Trafficking.authcheckdam.pdf) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Responding To Transgender Victims Of Sexual Assault

Statistics documenting transgender people's experience of sexual violence indicate shockingly high levels of sexual abuse and assault. One in two transgender individuals are sexually abused or assaulted at some point in their lives. Some reports estimate that transgender survivors may experience rates of sexual assault up to 66 percent, often coupled with physical assaults or abuse. This indicates that the majority of transgender individuals are living with the aftermath of trauma and the fear of possible repeat victimization. Please click [here](https://www.ovc.gov/pubs/forge/sexual_numbers.html) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# A Courtroom For All: Creating Child & Adolescent-Fair Courtrooms

Every day, thousands of child and adolescent victims of maltreatment are asked to enter the adult world of the criminal and family court justice system, to share their embarrassing and traumatic stories, and are expected to behave like adults. Those of us who work with youthful victims and witnesses know that the legal system can be overwhelming and intimidating to them. Many adults, even professionals who testify frequently, can be intimidated by the process. More must be done to create child and adolescent fair courtrooms because when a child feels comfortable, s/he will have better recall, testify more accurately and efficiently, and experience less re-traumatization. This is important for the wellbeing of the child, but also for a fair trial or proceeding of the defendant or parental respondents. Please click [here](http://www.ndaa.org/pdf/A%20Courtroom%20for%20All%20monograph-rev2.pdf) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Collaboration And Grant Writing Techniques For Victim Services Agencies To Apply For VOCA Grants

Would you like to submit for a competitive VOCA grant and possibly need more capacity to do that? Join Billie Jo Weyant of CAPSEA, Terri Allison of A Safe Place, and Dave Hyde of A Way Out - all experienced in obtaining VOCA grants - for two online sessions. The sessions will provide rural victim service programs the opportunity to apply for competitive VOCA funds or work collaboratively with neighboring counties.

**Purpose:**

To provide rural victim service programs the opportunity to apply for competitive VOCA funds collaboratively with neighboring counties and/or professionals within your county and improve your community!

**Description:**

**Wednesday July 19, 10:00-11:00am** – This webinar will provide prospective VOCA competitive grantees with knowledge of general application guidelines (I.e. DUNS Registration, SAM (Federal System for Award Management) registration/renewal overview and formerly Central Contractor Registration (CCR). Identifying potential partners within your county and neighboring counties, obtaining letters of support and MOU’s (memorandums of understanding).

**Wednesday July 26, 10:00-11:00am** – This webinar will provide prospective grantees with knowledge of developing a multi county budget that separately reflects in detail, the project along with key players in each county. This webinar will also include developing narrative that matches the multi county/partner project budget.

The sessions are free and registration is required.

To register for the sessions, please email your name, your program’s name and phone number to [pccdwebinar@gmail.com](mailto:pccdwebinar@gmail.com). We will email you all of the webinar information! If you cannot attend both sessions, please sign up by email and you will be able to get links to the recordings to watch at a later date.

We are grateful to PANO for their partnership in allowing us to use their online learning system!

[Return to top](#_top)

# Training Announcement: Adults In Trauma: TLC STARR Curriculum Training

August 1st, 2017, 8:30am – 4:30PM

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape

2101 N Front Street

Governor’s Plaza North, Bldg. #2

Harrisburg, PA 17110

*Lunch is on your own.*

This workshop is designed to teach participants the components of the Adults in Trauma Individual and Group Program, including the overt and underlying aspects of safety and control built into each session, the specifics of implementation, and common participant reactions. The training will begin with a brief overview of trauma, its causes, and normal reactions to trauma. The majority of the training is focuses on the components of the Adults in Trauma Program. Participants will learn how the sessions incorporate cognitive, emotional, and sensory aspects produced by trauma. During our time together, we will focus on components of the Adults in Trauma Program curriculum. We will begin be identifying a different role for individual assessment during counseling, and the importance of that that role, which is key to the implementation of future sessions. Building upon the assessment process, participants will learn how sessions can incorporate cognitive, emotional, and sensory aspects that are produced by trauma events to safely transition an individual from a victim, to a survivor, to a thriving individual.

To learn more or to register for this training, please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=650f718d-649f-4123-9aaa-818c127716e1).

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

For questions about registration, please contact Erin Levine, Database & Registration Coordinator, at [elevine@pcar.org](mailto:elevine@pcar.org) or 717-728-9740.

Deadline to register is **July 21st, 2017**!

[Return to top](#_top)

# SART Conference - Modern Day Slavery: Human Trafficking In Our Neighborhoods

The 5th annual SART Conference – Modern Day Slavery: Human Trafficking in our Neighborhoods – will be held Monday, August 7th from 7:30 am - 4:30 pm in the JFK Student Center on the campus of St. Francis University. Please see the [attached flyer](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2017%20SART%20Conference%20Flyer.pdf) for more information!

Our Morning Keynote Speaker is Dr. Marlene Carson, victim, survivor, minister, and Founder of Rahab’s Hideaway, and one of America’s foremost authorities on the subject of human trafficking.

Our Afternoon Keynote Speaker is Vincent DeVivo, Community Outreach Specialist for the United States Attorney’s Office, District of Maryland.

Continental breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snacks will be provided. *6 CEs are being offered and registration is limited so be sure to register soon!*

To register, please click [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/modern-day-slavery-human-trafficking-in-our-neighborhoods-2017-cambria-county-sart-conference-registration-32818130913).

[Return to top](#_top)

# Webinar: How Language Helps Shape Our Response To Sexual Violence

**August 10, 2017,** 11:00am PT, 12:00pm MT, 1:00pm CT, 2:00pm ET

When discussing sexual violence, we often use the language of consensual sex to describe assaultive acts or use euphemisms, erotic, or affectionate terms to portray violent acts. This language implies consent and romance, rather than criminal acts. In addition, we tend to describe violence against women in passive terms, which allows the perpetrators of this violence to remain invisible and unaccountable. We also use language that objectifies or blames sexual assault victims. This interactive session will explore the language of sexual assault: how we talk about and write about this crime. We will discuss specific examples of the language we use and explore how to discuss sexual assault in a way that more accurately depicts the crime. This session is applicable to all members of the response team who work with survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

Please click [here](https://ta2ta.org/webinars/registration/how-language-helps-shape-our-response-to-sexual-vi.html) to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Training Opportunity: Providing Linguistically Accessible & Responsive Sexual Assault Services

Planning Language Access from a Trauma-Informed Framework

August 22, 9AM-4PM & August 23, 9AM-3PM

The Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center

215 Innovation Blvd

State College, PA 16803

Hotel registration deadline: July 19, 2017

This training is intended for direct service supervisors, executive directors, and leadership who are tasked with planning and implementing language access in their agencies, or those who support staff and volunteers in providing sexual assault direct services. However, any victim service agency staff person or allied professional interested in this topic is welcome to attend. In this two-day intensive training presented by *Casa de Esperanza* and the *National Latin@ Network* is adapted from the *National Latin@ Network’s Language Access Toolkit*, participants will build on their understanding of language accessibility needs from a culturally- responsive and trauma-informed perspective, learn methods to create access in communities with limited resources, and learn out to develop language access plans that are responsive to their communities.

To learn more or to register for this training, please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=04055ea1-667a-4547-96e3-ce77a2b60494).

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.

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

*Pending approval for 11 PCCD training hours.*

[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)

# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, August 2, 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 July 26, 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)