**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

September 11, 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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# VAWA Reauthorization Webinar: What’s In It, And What Happens Next?

**Wednesday, September 12, 2018**

2:00 PM to 3:00 PM EDT

The current Violence Against Women Act is only authorized through Sept. 30th, and right now Congress is sitting on the reauthorization bill that ensures the needs of survivors continue to be met. On this webinar, you will learn more about the key enhancements in the bill as well as strategies to make sure VAWA is reauthorized with new protections.

Please click [here](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07efnpvs636734efa9&oseq=&c=&ch=) to register.

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# September is National Campus Safety Awareness Month

In 2008, National Campus Safety Awareness Month (NCSAM) was unanimously approved by Congress to encourage a public conversation on important topics in violence prevention at our nation’s colleges and universities. Our role with NCSAM at Clery Center has been simple: to partner with institutions of higher education to develop programs and resources that promote campus safety. Each year we choose a relevant theme, then work with college and university officials to spread awareness, inform institutional policy, and effect change. What’s your message? Please click [here](https://clerycenter.org/initiatives/ncsam/) to learn more.

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# OVS Needs Your Help: Help Us Help Them

As designated by ACT 105, the Office of Victim Services is creating an online website for human trafficking victims and for the victim service providers who offer them assistance. The human trafficking service provider directory, the legal directory, and the resource repository will include information for survivors of labor and sex trafficking, as well as resources for both providers and survivors.

Act 105 specifies that PCCD should compile a directory of services and benefits available to survivors, a directory of legal service providers and a directory of victim service providers specifying the services that each organization offers.

Please email all recommendations for inclusion in the victim service provider and legal assistance providers directories and any printed materials, webinars, recommended training or other recommended resource guides to Heather Hewitt at hhewitt@pa.gov. Please specify whether your recommendation addresses either labor or sex trafficking, or both.

The services can include, but are not limited to:

* Housing
* Advocacy
* Food/Clothing
* Legal Assistance
* Mental Health Care
* Immigration Assistance
* Education/Employment
* Drug & Alcohol Treatment
* Interpretation/Translation Services
* Culturally Specific Programs
* Individual/Group Counseling
* Other specialized services

We would like to provide the most comprehensive information available and depend on you to help us accomplish this goal.

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# RASA/VOJO 2019-2020 Funding Announcement Is Now Open!

Rights and Services Act/Victims of Juvenile Offenders (RASA/VOJO) funds support procedural services mandated by the PA Crime Victims Act, PA Juvenile Act and/or the PA Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure.  Please note that RASA/VOJO program recommendations are made by each county’s District Attorney (DA) in consultation with the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer (CJPO).  In order for victim service programs to apply for 2019-2020 RASA/VOJO funding, each county’s DA and CJPO must complete RASA and VOJO certification forms which designate programs and funding amounts. Thank you to each county for promptly submitting completed RASA and VOJO certification forms to PCCD. Please remember to forward copies of the certification forms to each recommended RASA and VOJO program, since applications must include the completed forms as attachments.

The RASA/VOJO 2019-2020 Funding Announcement is for the funding period of January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2020.  **RASA/VOJO programs must** **submit their applications by Friday, September 28, 2018.**  Here is the link to this funding announcement: [RASA/VOJO 2019-2020 Funding Announcement](https://www.pccdegrants.pa.gov/Egrants/Public/OpenAnnouncements.aspx).

Please contact PCCD if there are any questions concerning this announcement.Program-related questions should be directed to Maria Katulis at (717) 265-8741 or **mkatulis@pa.gov****,** or Shaun White at (717) 265-8718 or **shauwhite@pa.gov**. Fiscal or budgetary questions should be directed to Lynn Fidler at (717) 265-8490 or by email at **lyfidler@pa.gov**.  Questions concerning the Egrants system should be made directly to the Egrants Help Desk by phoning (717) 787-5887.  Thank you.

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# OVC Funding Opportunities

Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/Solicitation.aspx?utm_source=newsfromovc&utm_medium=email&utm_content=ovc_solicitation_rollup_5.30.2018&utm_campaign=solicitation_2018) to view all opportunities.

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# Center for Victim Research Funding Opportunity

The Center for Victim Research (CVR) is pleased to announce an exciting funding opportunity to support partnerships between Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance and/or compensation administrators and SACs. This funding can be used to collect and analyze victim-and victim-services related data in states or conduct other victim-related research or evaluation projects. The aim of these partnerships is to enhance the capacity of VOCA administrators and the local providers they fund to use data and empirical evidence to improve services to crime victims. This is the second round of funding for these partnership projects and provides up to $15,000 for each partnership project.

Please click [here](https://victimresearch.org/documents/voca-sac-collaboration-rfp-2018.pdf) to review the Request for Proposals.

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# Employment Opportunity – Victim Witness Advocate

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley is currently accepting resumes for an open Victim Witness Advocate full time position based in our Allentown Office. Applicants can apply online on indeed or can email their resume with cover letter to khinkle@cvclv.org. Please feel free to pass this announcement along to anyone you may know. For more information, please click [here](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Victim%20Witness%20Advocate%20-%20Job%20Description.pdf).

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# October Foundational Academy

***Please note, there is a waiting list for this training.***

Foundational Academy Training for New Victim Advocates

October 17-19, 2018

Hyatt Place State College

219 W. Beaver Ave.

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](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ciclt.net%2Fsn%2Fevents%2Fe_signup.aspx%3FClientCode%3Dpdaa%26E_ID%3D500103%26RegType%3DATT&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C6cdd7e5d042f4dcd510a08d5f6470190%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636685707195996783&sdata=fgf7zG0Aco4H28%2FRc5l%2FISrHBfdTTNxcIBHlWwuyawo%3D&reserved=0) to register.

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

If you have any training questions in general, please contact Maria Katulis (PCCD) at mkatulis@pa.gov or (717) 265-8741.

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

The following trainings will be held on September 19, 2018

* Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=98384426901187954) to register.
* Relocation Expenses Clinic - 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=102554206109481869) to register.
* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 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=102554268913941400) to register.

The following trainings will be held on September 27, 2018

* Counseling 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=102553985649523497) 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=102554362347305885) to register.

The following training will be held on October 10, 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=102554430292933446) to register.
* Myths of Compensation - 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=102554502145555274) to register.

The following trainings will be held on October 16, 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=102554779584084922) to register.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic - 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=102554600710650797) to register.

The following training will be held on October 25, 2018

* Funeral & Burial 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=102554662502185908) to register.
* Loss of Earnings 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=102554735146482614) to register.

DAVE WebEx trainings

* *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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# Spotlight on PERF’s Executive Guidebook: Strengthening Law Enforcement Responses To Sexual Assault

It's not often that a professional guidebook makes us say, "Wow!" Yet that was exactly our reaction to the groundbreaking new resource published by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). PERF's Executive Guidebook: Practical Approaches for Strengthening Law Enforcement's Response to Sexual Assault is a must-read for law enforcement professionals, prosecutors, victim advocates, and other community partners who respond to sexual assault. The "wow factor" comes from the skillful writing and integration of important principles in sexual assault investigation, with practical guidelines for how to implement those ideas. PERF starts with the core value of conducting thorough and professional investigations, and consistently emphasizes the importance of providing victims with safety, support, and advocacy - rather than an attitude of skepticism or blame. Yet these are not just words: The Guidebook provides concrete recommendations on how to translate them into practice. Please click [here](https://www.policeforum.org/assets/SexualAssaultResponseExecutiveGuidebook.pdf) to access the Guidebook, or click [here](http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1101938584617&ca=44947f22-556c-4941-8f09-c8321797ca4b) for more information.

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# In Plane Sight: The Airline Industry’s Response To Human Trafficking

The aviation industry is often referred to as the business of freedom. Every year, airlines safely connect more than four billion passengers on over 20,000 city pairs. Today alone, over 100,000 flights will take place, connecting business to markets, reuniting friends and family, facilitating voyages of discovery and cultural exchange. Aviation delivers huge social and economic benefits. However, the ease, speed and affordability of air travel makes it an effective form of transportation for criminals who want to deny freedom to others through the crime of human trafficking. Please click [here](https://www.traffickingmatters.com/in-plane-sight-the-airline-industrys-response-to-human-trafficking/) to read more.

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# Updated - PDAI Victim Services Trainings

**Crossing Bridges – A Juvenile Justice Training**

September 26, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Giant Community Center

2300 Linglestown Road

Harrisburg, PA 17110

Restorative justice is a term commonly used in conjunction with the juvenile justice system. Restorative Practices (the social science behind restorative justice) are designed to address harm, repair relationships and meet the needs of all parties involved. During this one-day training we will explore the continuum of practices that can be used within the context of the criminal/juvenile justice system to build restorative justice opportunities that serve both victims and offenders as well as the communities that surround them. Participants will have the opportunity to discern the similarities and differences of a continuum of restorative practices through role play and storytelling. Training participants will also explore how they can implement restorative practices in their personal and professional lives.

At the conclusion of this one-day training, participants will:

* Articulate the goals and foundational theories upon which restorative practices are built;
* Identify restorative justice best practices; and
* Recognize the value of restorative justice services for crime victims, communities and offenders.

Please click [here](http://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500111&RegType=ATT) to register.

*\*This training qualifies for 6 training hours through PCCD.*

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# Registration Now Open: 2019 International Conference On Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence And Increasing Access

April 22-24, 2019

Manchester Grand Hyatt

San Diego, CA

Our annual conferences focus on sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, human trafficking and elder abuse. We consistently bring together law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, victim advocates, judges, parole and probation officers, rape crisis workers, health care professionals, faith community members, educators, researchers and others in this three-day conference highlighting promising practices and emerging issues to effectively respond to these crimes in all of our communities.

Please click [here](http://www.cvent.com/events/international-conference-on-sexual-assault-intimate-partner-violence-and-increasing-access/event-summary-3014a410ca1c4646ab3f6ca0ac31a3bb.aspx) to learn more and to register.

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# BWJP: Training Opportunities

**Domestic Violence-Related Mass and Spree Killings**

September 17, 2018 / 2:00 – 3:30 CDT

Dr. Websdale will define mass and spree killing and explain the differences between familicidal, felonious, and non-felony related forms of these offenses. The webinar will concentrate on two forms of "public" mass and spree killings. The first form consists of those cases where the complex dynamics of domestic violence are of central significance and appear to be the principal precipitant of the killings. These cases involve offenders killing former or current spouses/partners and/or those such as family law attorneys, allied professionals, and/or friends who may have supported the spouse or partner. The second form involves those public mass killings, usually shootings, where domestic violence forms but one aspect of the case but may nevertheless be central to developing an understanding of the killings. Dr. Websdale will use case illustrations to flesh out themes across case types, examining, for example, the gendering of these offenses, the signaling of offenses, histories of intimate terrorism, planning and preparation, the possible role of mental illness, the social isolation of offenders, fascination and proficiency with weaponry, threatening changes in the life circumstances of offenders, and the role of suicidal feelings, depression, rage, extreme hatred, and vengefulness.

Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-domestic-violence-related-mass-killings.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=bf8423714d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_30_04_16_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-bf8423714d-132881353) to learn more and to register.

**A SAFeR Approach to Considering Child-Related Relief in Orders for Protection**

**September 19, 2018 / 2:00 – 3:30 CDT**

Battered parents frequently struggle to secure statutorily permitted child-related relief in civil protection orders. This webinar will introduce one strategy that advocates, attorneys, and survivors can use to close the gap between what the law allows by way of temporary custody in civil protection order cases and what petitioners are able to achieve. The strategy is known as "SAFeR." It is a practical approach to screening, assessing, and responding to the lived experience of intimate partner abuse in child custody disputes.

Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-SAFer-Approach-child-related-relief-in-protection-orders.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=bf8423714d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_30_04_16_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-bf8423714d-132881353) to learn more and to register.

**Gathering Technology Abuse Evidence in Protection Order Cases**

September 26, 2018 / 12:00 – 1:30 CDT

Communication software, social media, and location services are increasingly used to stalk, harass, and terrorize. This interactive webinar will examine the technologies most commonly misused in domestic violence cases and outline the process for gathering and admitting evidence of tech abuse. Participants will learn about ethical issues related to online evidence collection, how to provide clients with the tools to assist in gathering evidence, and how to admit tech evidence in court.

Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-technology-abuse-evidence-protection-orders.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=bf8423714d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_30_04_16_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-bf8423714d-132881353) to learn more and to register.

**Using Federal Law to Increase Safety for Indian Women: TLOA and VAWA Implementation Efforts**

**September 27, 2018 / 2:00 - 3:30 CDT**

Native American women suffer domestic and sexual violence at epidemic rates. Federal law enforcement may be hours away from reservation crime scenes and resources are frequently stretched thin. Tribal police, prosecutors, and courts have had significant success in combating intimate partner violence committed by Indians in Indian country. But, because of a 1978 U.S. Supreme Court decision, tribes lacked the authority to prosecute a non-Indian defendant even if he lived on the reservation and was married to a tribal member. And, federal law limited tribes to imposing a maximum sentence of one-year imprisonment regardless of how serious the offense. The Tribal Law and Order Act (2010) and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 potentially and dramatically changed the legal authority of tribal courts and have provided federal prosecutors with new criminal offenses to use when holding offenders accountable. This webinar will cover the relevant changes to federal law, a summary of recent case law, and provide an update on implementation efforts for both Acts.

Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-federal-law-safety-indian-women-tloa-vawa.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=bf8423714d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_30_04_16_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-bf8423714d-132881353) to learn more and to register.

**Veterans and Domestic Violence: Improving Safety, Accountability, and Intervention**

October 15-16, 2018 / Jacksonville, FL

BWJP will present a free two-day training on **military and veteran-related domestic violence and best practices for screening, assessment, and intervention.** This training is tailored to those individuals who work in and with criminal courts that have military and veteran defendants and, particularly, **Veterans Treatment Court staff, domestic violence court staff, and community-based victim advocates.**

Topics addressed during this training will include Screening; Risk & Risk Assessment; Contextual Analysis; Intersection of Co-occurring Conditions & Domestic Violence; Victims and Victim Advocates; Pretrial and Probation Supervision; Firearms and Domestic Violence-related Prohibitions; Offender Intervention Programs; and Veterans Health Administration Services.

Please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/veterans-and-domestic-violence.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=7fe39116f3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_04_18_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-7fe39116f3-132881353) to learn more and to request to attend. Requests to attend this training will be honored in the order they are received.

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# Serving Both Sides: Navigating Domestic Violence Amongst Service Users Webinar

September 18, 2018

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Many disability providers have an explicit commitment to serve all people with a disability in their community, no matter what. At the same time, they are increasingly aware of the likelihood of domestic violence within their communities, the complexities of domestic violence, and the unique dynamics that domestic violence creates, particularly when both parties are users of their organization’s services. On any given day, a disability service provider could be serving both parties in a domestic violence situation. Because of this, disability providers may be grappling with how to uphold their commitment to serve all while also ensuring that victims feel safe receiving services from their organization. This webinar will begin to explore the importance of policies to ensure effective and safe services for all people served as well as some important considerations when developing such a policy at your organization.

Please click [here](https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1083844668/en/events/event/shared/1099426672/event_registration.html?sco-id=1927148602) to register.

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# Reducing Gender Bias In Sexual Assault Response And Investigation

Tuesday, September 18, 2018

12:00 p.m. ET

Systematic, thorough, and impartial law enforcement investigations must seek to avoid drawing on gender-based stereotypes and attitudes at every step of the process. This is why the US Department of Justice (DOJ) published groundbreaking guidance for law enforcement in 2015, entitled, Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias in Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence.

In this webinar, we will explore the phenomenon of gender bias, both explicit (conscious) and implicit (unconscious), and the resulting stereotypes and attitudes that can influence the professional response to, and investigation of, sexual assault. Many of the same principles apply to cases of intimate partner violence and other gender-based violence.

We will begin by introducing the concept of implicit bias, and then address key questions about how gender bias can disadvantage (or advantage) either the victim or suspect. For example, we will examine the relationship between gender bias and victim selection at the time of the sexual assault, as well as victim blaming afterward. We will also evaluate how gender bias plays a critical role in the designation of false reports in cases of sexual assault, and consider the intersection of gender bias and victim recantations. Parallels will be drawn to other types of gender-based violence.

As a result of this webinar, participants will be better able to:

* Define the concept of implicit bias, and explore how gender bias can influence law enforcement responses and investigations of sexual assault.
* Examine the relationship between gender bias and victim selection, victim blaming, false reports, and victim recantations in sexual assault cases.
* Describe policies and practices that can help to avoid gender bias and increase our opportunities to identify, arrest, and prosecute perpetrators of sexual assault.
* Explore parallels with intimate partner violence and other gender-based crimes.

Please click [here](https://www.evawintl.org/WebinarDetail.aspx?webinarid=1060) to register.

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# Behind Our Gender Masks: Empowering Young Women And Men To Express Their Full Humanity

September 20, 2018

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET

Today’s young women and young men have an unprecedented opportunity to step out from behind the gender masks that have limited the range of “acceptable” expression and contribute the best of who they are to the healing and evolution of our society. How can we help them seize that opportunity?

How do we support young women in rejecting visions of womanhood that equate ‘femininity’ with subservience, devaluation, and sexualization? And how do we call young men into a vision of manhood that incorporates caring, creativity, and mutual respect as key markers of “masculinity”?

Riane Eisler of the Center for Partnership Studies will talk with special guests Brie Mathers and Ashanti Branch about the educational and organizing strategies they are using to make a powerful difference in the lives of young people. Together, they’ll talk about the real challenges young women and men are facing today, and ways we can all support the work of un-doing the gender norms that help maintain domination systems. Educators, mentors, parents, grandparents, and all of us who care about building a partnership world won’t want to miss this inspiring and provocative conversation. Bring your questions and concerns to this interactive dialogue!

Please click [here](https://centerforpartnership.org/featured/gendermasks/) to register.

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# Keystone Crisis Intervention Team: Death Notification Trainings

Death Notification can be part of anyone's job. It is not a fun task, but one that is so important to the survivors' healing. In this training, you will learn best practices in Death Notification as well as possible reactions by survivors and how to help.

September 24, 3018 - *Waitlisted*

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Bucks County Public Safety Training Center

1760 S. Easton Road

Doylestown, PA 18901

Who? First Responders, Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Victim Services, Spiritual Care Providers, Volunteers and anyone who may have to deliver a death notification

Please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07efeam2da42a5e3c4&llr=6nqn8gdab) to register. Training is provided free of cost. *Please note that this training is very close to being filled. There is a waiting list for registrations.*

March 7, 2019 (*snow date March 8th*)

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Luzerne County Community College

1333 S. Prospect Street

Nanticoke, PA 18643

Please click [here](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07efl5jdsoe3ce3966&oseq=&c=&ch=) to register. Training is provided free of cost.

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# Reading Between The Lines: Case File Review For SARTS

September 27, 2018

12:00 p.m. ET

Throughout our country, communities have long struggled with their response to sexual violence. In many instances, the criminal justice system has shown itself to be inadequate and has often failed those who most need it to work. From initial police reports to decisions that prosecutors make in court, the U.S. criminal justice system has a long way to go before sexual assault is treated as the violent crime that it is, offenders are held accountable for their actions, and victims of sexual assault are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve.

In 2016, the Sexual Violence Justice Institute came out with a toolkit entitled What Do Sexual Assault Cases Look Like in Our Community? A SART Coordinator's Guidebook for Case File Review, which is a step-by-step guide for sexual assault response teams to use to look at case files to identify what is working well within their community's response as well as identify gaps as a way to create lasting systems change. Case files hold the "official" record of a survivor's experience. From the language used in capturing the experience to steps taken or not taken, case files offer great insight into frameworks responders use, the ways that their work is organized, and how the disciplines interact with each other.

Through the process of looking at case files, SARTs are able to look at the system as a whole to learn more about the current response to sexual violence. While case file review can present challenges, it is a powerful tool to identify and implement strategies for sexual assault cases to be more successfully investigated and documented and to evaluate current policies and practices of SART agencies.

From this webinar, participants should leave with a better understanding of how case file review can be used as an evaluative measure and method of systems change work as well as gain practical skills and tools to implement case file review in their community.

As a result of this webinar, participants will be better able to:

* Understand how case file review can be used to assess the criminal justice response to sexual assault.
* Recognize the importance of reviewing cases as a strategy of systems change work.
* Implement strategies for conducting case file review, including applying practical skills and steps for how to engage SARTs in Case File Review.
* Apply best practices to address concerns about confidentiality and improving the system response.

Please click [here](https://www.evawintl.org/WebinarRegistration.aspx?webinarid=1058) to register.

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# Save The Date: Eighth Annual Domestic Violence Symposium

This free, half-day symposium also will include a panel discussion with experts and advocates who will examine these issues from a variety of experiences and expertise.

October 2, 2018

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Cabrini University, Grace Hall

610 King of Prussia Road

Radnor, PA 19087-3698

Please click [here](https://www.cabrini.edu/about/departments/academic-departments/school-of-education/center-for-children-of-trauma-and-domestic-violence-education/news-and-events) to learn more and to register.

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# Advoz Training Announcements

**Restorative Justice Victim-Offender Conferencing Training**

October 2nd- 20th, 2018 (35 hours)

Tuesday & Thursday’s from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. and Saturday the 6th, 13th, and 20th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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.

Registration deadline is September 24th. More information and registration at: [www.advoz.org](http://www.advoz.org) or email: angela@advoz.org.

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# Regional SORNA Trainings: The Office Of Victim Advocate (OVA) Is Coming To A Town Near You!

3 chances to attend a regional training this year, covering the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), the Address Confidentiality Program, and an overview of all services and programs offered by OVA.

This free training is for all victim service providers, members of law enforcement, district attorneys, and therapists.

**Pittsburgh: October 4, 2018**
Center for Victims
3433 E. Carson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203
*register by Sept 20*

**Harrisburg: October 30, 2018**
Riverfront Office Center
1101 S. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17104
*register by Oct 16*

**Philadelphia: November 7, 2018**

District Attorney’s Office
3 S. Penn Square, Philadelphia, PA 19107
*register by Oct 24*

[Registration information and a complete agenda are provided here](https://www.ova.pa.gov/Programs/Opportunities/Training/Pages/default.aspx).

*Follow the* [*Office of Victim Advocate on Facebook*](https://www.facebook.com/ThePAOfficeoftheVictimAdvocate/?ref=settings) *for ongoing updates!*

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# PCADV’s Progress Through Unity Conference

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

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

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.

For additional information, please click [here](http://2018conference.pcadv.org/).

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# Law Enforcement Scholarships Available Through End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI)

EVAWI is pleased to announce the availability of up to 10 scholarships for law enforcement officers to their 2019 International Conference on Sexual Assault, Intimate Partner Violence and Increasing Access to be held in San Diego, California on April 22-24th.

The scholarships will cover the full cost of the conference registration. If you have a grant, you can check with your grant program manager to see if grant funds can be used to cover any travel expenses.

Conference registration includes:

* Three days of training with leading national experts
* Three light continental breakfasts
* Three seated lunches
* Electronic Course Material

For eligibility and application details, click [here](https://www.evawintl.org/conferencedetail.aspx?confid=30).  **Deadline for application is November 5, 2018**.

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# KCIT Basic Crisis Response Training – Application Now Open

KCIT is pleased to announce the application for the annual KCIT Basic Crisis Response Training for June 3-6, 2019 in Gettysburg, PA. This 25-hour training helps participants learn about crisis reactions after a trauma. Upon completion of this training, interested participants can apply to become KCIT volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact KCIT at info@kcitpa.org.

Please click [here](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eflt62cvc15ea8ef&oseq=&c=&ch=) to register.

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# New Program Highlights

If your program is offering new or extended services, or implementing new initiatives that you would like to highlight, please submit your news article to Heather Hewitt at hhewitt@pa.gov.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, September 26, 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 by Wednesday, September 19, 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.

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)