**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Michael Pennington**

*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

November 3, 2021

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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).

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# 16th Pathways For Victim Services Conference

The 16th Pathways for Victim Services conference was held virtually October 26 – 28, 2021. A total of 575 participants attended over the course of the three-day event. Attendees had 33 workshops to choose from which included topics such as domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, immigrant victims, human trafficking, trauma, child victims, mass violence, restorative justice, advocacy, and the use of technology in provision of services.

Two dynamic speakers provided a keynote address for conference participants. Mr. Andrew Campbell presented “Bad To The Bone: The Interconnectedness of Pet Abuse, Partner Abuse and Child Abuse.” He shared his personal experience of growing up in an abusive home and how the bond with his dog saved his life time and time again. His book, "Not Without My Pet", covering the pet piece of family violence, was released in September of 2021.

Dr. Gail Stern’s presentation of “Beat The Blame Game: Blaming Victims of Sexual Violence & Human Trafficking” was an engaging keynote that allowed participants to identify the corrosive way victim blaming arguments undermine support for survivors and diminish offender accountability. She addressed the reasons why people blame the victim and support the alleged perpetrators, and then she dismantled those arguments with logic, principles, and ironic humor. Dr. Stern highlighted ways to address victim blaming within the criminal justice system, enabling us to counter those beliefs effectively.

Anyone who registered for the conference can log onto the virtual conference lobby and watch recordings of the workshops they selected during their registration. Simply select the date under “Your Agenda” to access the recordings for a specific day. OVS staff will be downloading all 33 workshop recordings and will make those available on the PCCD website for agencies to use for staff and volunteer in-service trainings. Additionally, any resources made available by any of the presenters is accessible in the virtual lobby by selecting the Event Resources module and then the Workshop Handouts folder.

Training Certificates will be emailed to conference participants in November. A heartfelt thank you to all of the workshop presenters, keynote speakers, and participants who made this year’s virtual conference.

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# 2021 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award Recipients Announced

The Governor and the Office of Victims' Services annually recognize individuals and a program that provides outstanding services to victims of crime in Pennsylvania.  The 2021 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award winners are: **Karen Widdoss**, **Tatiana Piper**, **Kelly Sagastume**, **Crisis Center North Mobile Advocacy Program**, **The Center for Inclusion Health**, and the **Team at Domino’s Pizza in Lewistown, PA**.

**The Pathfinder** **Survivor Activist Award** was presented to **Karen Widdoss**. Karen’s victimization and advocacy resulted in passed legislation that directly and positively impacts all victims of similar crimes in PA and is named “Karen’s Law”. As a part of her healing, she also began sharing her story and became a victim advocate.

**The Pathfinder Individual Direct Service Award** was presented to **Tatiana Piper** (Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, PCAR). As a direct service provider, she matches people on the inside of prison walls with sexual assault services on the outside. In an effort to make these resources more accessible, Tatiana created a series of 8 e-learning courses to help people better serve incarcerated survivors and collaborate with corrections staff.

**The Pathfinder Individual Prevention, Education, Outreach Award** was presented to **Kelly Sagastume** (Project PROTECT). In her role as Program Manager of Project PROTECT, Ms. Sagastume dedicates her time to local resource development and policy advocacy for child victims of human trafficking through the convening of the Philadelphia Juvenile Anti-Trafficking Coalition. She has committed her work to educating our community on how to identify child victims of human trafficking and how to best support children and youth who have been or have possibly been trafficked.

**The Pathfinder Program Award** was presented to **Crisis Center North Mobile Advocacy Program**, **Pittsburgh, PA**. Crisis Center North’s Mobile Program offers confidential services to victims in safe and convenient locations, partnering with nine distinct locations in an effort to remove barriers associated with accessing services. No longer are victims required to come to a stationary victim service center. For the first time in some of these individuals’ lives, this model of intervention lifts burdens rather than adds them and gives the client one singular place to access services for the mind and body.

**The Pathfinder Allied Service Professional Award** was presented to **The Center for Inclusion Health**, **Pittsburgh, PA.** The Center for Inclusion Health is a program of the Allegheny Health Network that provides services to diverse and disenfranchised populations. Program areas include: Addiction Medicine; Homeless Health Care; Positive Health Clinic, which offers HIV rapid testing and comprehensive care; Healthy Food Center to address food insecurity; Transgender Healthcare; and medical services for immigrants and refugees. Through these efforts, they have focused on creating programs to remove barriers for care for its patients.

Finally, **The Pathfinder Community Service Award** was presented to the team at **Domino’s Pizza**, **Store #4879 in Lewistown, PA**. This Domino’s Pizza store has played a crucial component in the difficult healing journey of one specific family who are survivors of a domestic violence homicide that left six children in the custody of their grandmother. This Domino’s store has provided dinner for this family every Thursday evening for the past 17 months.

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# Elder Justice Network Locator Map

**Over 300 elder abuse teams have joined the Elder Justice Network Locator Map.**

Elder justice professionals across the country are striving daily to improve outcomes for abused older adults through coordinated prevention, intervention and policy teams.  Identifying these teams and making meaningful connections between those doing similar work is challenging.

The Department of Justice, Elder Justice Initiative is promoting [The Elder Justice Network Locator Map](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.justice.gov%2Felderjustice%2Felder-justice-network-locator-map&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C3a1cecb133704b62c9d408d994b3d24b%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637705036484389340%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=hqmyLeXoOmZEAxpeCj%2FWSbYD92Cjw1%2ByiOb%2FDGHktYA%3D&reserved=0) in an effort to shine a light on elder justice teams across the country and foster collaboration.

To learn more about the map, watch our recorded webinar: [Mapping Elder Justice Networks](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.justice.gov%2Felderjustice%2Fvideo%2Fmapping-elder-justice-network&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C3a1cecb133704b62c9d408d994b3d24b%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637705036484399297%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=pbZmX0Isrmsm5SOz6kiOLhknVbht7dTMql7qTvtNnxA%3D&reserved=0)

Networks interested in being included in the Locator may submit their network name, type of network (MDT, FAST, Task Force, etc.), address, phone number, web and/or email address to:

[Talitha.J.Guinn-Shaver@usdoj.gov](mailto:Talitha.J.Guinn-Shaver@usdoj.gov).

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# Rise In Gun Homicides Involving Intimate Partners

The pandemic has been an especially lethal period for abuse victims. Gun homicides involving intimate partners rose a stunning 25% last year compared with the previous year, to the highest level in almost three decades.

Please click [here](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/oct/26/domestic-abuse-gun-violence-reveal) to read.

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# Domestic Violence Advocates Say We Should Pay Attention To More Subtle Signs

Domestic violence — it’s a crime that may be hard to spot because abuse often happens behind closed doors.

Injuries like bruises and broken bones are obvious signs of abuse, but domestic violence advocates say we should also pay attention to more subtle signs.

Please click [here](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/domestic-violence-advocates-say-we-should-pay-attention-to-more-subtle-signs/ar-AAPumTr?ocid=se) to read.

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# Tech Abuse In The Pandemic And Beyond

The Safety Net Project at the National Network to End Domestic Violence has released a new report, “[Tech Abuse in the Pandemic and Beyond](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvictimsofcrime.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Ddb5de61499b6cf77db23bb1ca%26id%3Dcb3ca503f0%26e%3D80b790999c&data=04%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C211473b0b5d743094d9308d998077648%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637707980257627857%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2BzsrkIU2p0%2BluiA9SPSpvruhJKDdHZ7Ikb%2FNZyY2zpE%3D&reserved=0)” – a look at the findings from a needs assessment of the field that included the participation of over 1,000 advocates and legal systems professionals.

Please click [here](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/51dc541ce4b03ebab8c5c88c/t/61674c082419497a370af990/1634159630368/2021_T2E+Needs+Assessment+Report.pdf) to read.

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# State Of Antisemitism In America 2021 Report

The American Jewish Committee (AJC) recently released its *State of Antisemitism in America 2021 report*, based on new national polling of the U.S. Jewish and general adult populations. “The surveys, the largest and most comprehensive of their kind ever conducted, confirm that hatred of Jews remains a severe problem in the United States, requiring urgent attention—and that American Jews and the U.S. general public view the problem very differently.”

Please click [here](https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2021) to read.

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# Trauma Cues Related To Mass Violence Incidents

The National Mass Violence Victimization Resource Center just published a helpful tip sheet about how to cope with *Trauma Cues Related to Mass Violence Incidents*.

Please click [here](https://www.nmvvrc.org/media/hkunrpxh/trauma-cues-related-to-mass-violence-incidents.pdf) to read.

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# 2020 Had The Most Reported Hate Crimes Since 2001: FBI Data

The most hate crimes in the U.S. since 2001 were reported last year, according to newly released data from the [FBI](https://www.huffpost.com/news/topic/fbi) that also revealed a stunning 76% increase in anti-Asian hate crimes. Overall, the majority of hate crime incidents reported last year — roughly 50% of them — were against Black people. Meanwhile, 55% of known perpetrators of racial bias hate crimes were white, while 21% were Black or African American.

Please click [here](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/fbi-2020-hate-crimes-asian-americans_n_6176fd81e4b010d933148e55) to read.

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# September 2021 Update: Pandemic, Social Unrest, And Crime In U.S. Cities

The Council on Criminal Justice recently published, *September 2021 Update: Pandemic, Social Unrest, and Crime in U.S. Cities*. “This reportupdates our previous studies of crime changes during the COVID-19 pandemic, extending the data through the first three quarters (January-September) of 2021. The results are generally consistent with those of our earlier work and our conclusions have not changed: as the pandemic subsides, long lasting reductions in violence and crime will require cities to adopt evidence-based crime-control strategies and long-needed reforms to policing.”

Please click [here](https://counciloncj.org/september-2021-crime-report/) to read.

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# Free Customized Coaching Services

From the National Center for Victims of Crime: “Securing funding while maintaining daily operations and services for victims can be extremely challenging. [**The Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvictimsofcrime.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Ddb5de61499b6cf77db23bb1ca%26id%3D9a75b2925c%26e%3D80b790999c&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cd6392b9e51f94858951108d99dfc3853%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637714529422459469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=VRR4%2F3%2BHzNsUzpZBGQvspAjyc8vFJhdEZZpjjPppcZE%3D&reserved=0) is offering [**free coaching services**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvictimsofcrime.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Ddb5de61499b6cf77db23bb1ca%26id%3D467eaf9c46%26e%3D80b790999c&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cd6392b9e51f94858951108d99dfc3853%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637714529422469426%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=1kOE3RKCAvFXky%2BBdHc%2BI9Rxb6hSbYA7j7gRaz0bPhg%3D&reserved=0) to assist victim service providers pursue grant opportunities, engage in strategic financial planning, and identify paths toward long-term sustainability. Visit the Center's website to learn more about the services and access the Center's [**resource library**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvictimsofcrime.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Ddb5de61499b6cf77db23bb1ca%26id%3D54c1f0e45a%26e%3D80b790999c&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cd6392b9e51f94858951108d99dfc3853%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637714529422469426%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=272okIzFd3LWlVWI0E8V8p2OGK0TOJtcwzjkx3ExOII%3D&reserved=0) with more than 100 downloadable anti-trafficking resources. In addition, information about federal funding opportunities for anti-trafficking work can be obtained by [**subscribing**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvictimsofcrime.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Ddb5de61499b6cf77db23bb1ca%26id%3Dcd9ca0f490%26e%3D80b790999c&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cd6392b9e51f94858951108d99dfc3853%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637714529422479382%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=fdLVEmukAFdr9m9JIXUl%2BGZdpz6pUZeiFIJr%2FK1Q9XM%3D&reserved=0)to *News from OVC*, an email newsletter from the Office for Victims of Crime.”

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# New Board Member Orientation For Victims Service Organizations

The Office for Victims of Crime, *New Board Member Orientation for Victim Service Organizations* free online training welcomes and orients new board members to governance service in victim assistance organizations. Combined with local agency onboarding, this training will prepare new board members to govern with care and excellence.

Please click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/TrainingMaterials/dspOnline_NewBoardMbr.cfm?nm=wbt&ns=ot&nt=nbm&utm_campaign=justinfo&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery) to read more.

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# 2022 NCVRW CAP- Funding Webinar Recording

**2022 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Community Awareness Projects Applicants’ Webinar Recording NOW AVAILABLE!**

NAVAA, in cooperation with the Office for Victims of Crime, is seeking proposals for innovative and collaborative approaches to promoting community‐wide public awareness of the rights and available services for victims of all types of crimes during National Crime Victims’ Rights Week (NCVRW), April 24-30, 2022. The 2022 NCVRW theme is ***“Rights, access, equity for all victims.”***

Application information can be found at [https://navaa.org/community-awareness-project/](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnavaa.org%2Fcommunity-awareness-project%2F&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cbf07b272f3f3444fe4ec08d99a54188c%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637710508253223352%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=3J9jFi%2F%2FnB9s72ZVOyrCTDLuayQju1ESInAFQv6lGs4%3D&reserved=0).  A applicants’ webinar was held, October 27, 2021, and is available for viewing by [CLICKING HERE](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrive.google.com%2Ffile%2Fd%2F1ta83tjpWho1pmxSL2yX2ib9DhbfJVtVy%2Fview%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cbf07b272f3f3444fe4ec08d99a54188c%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637710508253233304%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=BCc6VzIQ813LNDueLoewtte7WAR6n8JRAJJy3v4oIcc%3D&reserved=0).  The webinar recording is also available on the CAP website [https://navaa.org/community-awareness-project/application-guide/](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnavaa.org%2Fcommunity-awareness-project%2Fapplication-guide%2F&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cbf07b272f3f3444fe4ec08d99a54188c%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637710508253243267%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=ty%2BZNMlcbWPH3FdB4bMu4RPY5xl2pwQ6L0k1trjQzsY%3D&reserved=0) .  For any questions, please contact CAP Project Director Rhonda Dean @ [rhonda@navaa.org](mailto:rhonda@navaa.org).

***Reminder: the grant application is due at 11.59 p.m. on November 12, 2021.***

Successful applicants will be awarded up to $5,000 each in reimbursement for approved NCVRW public awareness activities through the NCVRW Community Awareness Project’s program. Public agencies, nonprofit organizations, community‐based victim service organizations, faith‐based organizations, tribal organizations, and community coalitions committed to advocating for the rights and services of crime victims are among those encouraged to apply.

Over the past 15 years, the NCVRW CAP program has supported more than 1,000 community projects to raise general public awareness about victims’ rights and services. Within many of these communities, “traditional” NCVRW events were enhanced by the collaborative partnerships that were formed during the planning phase of each project.

Generally, the types of activities supported with NCVRW CAP funds fall into one or more of the following categories:

●         a public event at which individual members of the general public physically attend in-person (e.g., candlelight vigils, information, or resource fairs, 5k walk/runs, memorial services);

●         mass media advertising (e.g., newspaper, radio, or television ads, billboards, mass transit or movie theatre ads, including social media); and

●         the production, publication, and distribution of printed awareness materials (e.g., brochures, posters, victims’ rights cards, resource directories).)

Examples of allowable costs include production and purchase of advertising in print media, radio, television, or outdoor advertising to promote NCVRW events, victims’ rights, and available services; design and printing of promotional materials; support for event speakers; design and printing of posters, invitations, and fliers; and the purchase of supplies and materials used in public awareness events and activities. Salaries, entertainment, and fundraising costs are not eligible for reimbursement.

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# Branding In Brief – A New Six-Part Video Training Series

Join NCA Director of Communications Blake Warenik on a journey in six parts through the NCA and CAC movement's common national brand and message, with practical hands-on demonstrations, exercises to help you sharpen your message to reach the audience, and so much more. Appropriate for seasoned communicators and newcomers alike.

Please click [here](https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/products/branding-in-brief-a-new-six-part-video-training-series) to register.

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# Online Expert Q & A: Prosecutors And Trauma Exposure: Effects And Mitigation Strategies

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| |  | | --- | | Prosecutors and Trauma Exposure:  Effects and Mitigation Strategies  November 30 at 2:00 p.m. e.t. | |

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| |  | | --- | | **On November 30 at 2:00 p.m. e.t., the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center will present an online Expert Q&A discussion with Cynthia Micklem and Tammi Slovinsky on "Prosecutors and Trauma Exposure: Effects and Mitigation Strategies."**  **﻿**Although research to date has explored the impacts of exposure to trauma for victim service providers, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, law enforcement, and EMTs, fewer studies have explored secondary trauma among prosecutors. This session will provide an overview of the findings of a research study that applied qualitative methods to examine the perspectives of prosecutors in Virginia who work sex crime cases. The discussion will include mitigation strategies for criminal justice system personnel designed to enhance resiliency while working with victims of crime.  [**Read more about this session.**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ovcttac.gov%2Fexpert-qa%2F%3Fnm%3Dwbt%26ns%3Deqa%26nt%3Dcs&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cfb16d424e9bb48f5d57708d99d89df49%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637714037766096803%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=eDy1lstv2xdeR0%2Fqy76gZnbMFLVED%2BqauRLBWkOesb8%3D&reserved=0) |  |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif |  |  | | --- | | **It's easy to participate:**  1. Register and submit your questions in advance.    2. Log into the session at the time of the event.  3. Engage with the experts as they answer your questions. |  |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif |  |  | | --- | | [**Register Here**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fr20.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D001g2Pt4HqXK8z9MvokgV1uKxZHHVRlu1oGsYkJW4wG_js487Z_vVXXrbydWmu2sgZ7OFEBh-prr5L0-5dlyaZhGZwtZJtP38vv6tui7PoO8m82cSsg9sE6j9pVQUS0MIwjN39Ywds8qUhPAPEuVGqVwvUE_TvuNuj981xfCOOa13nijxgjDjkDagB8uiPxyFFUnjc2qMf9Vr4%3D%26c%3DLJAHioDPOap7aTzbo5dx-Ymt-BTf913ym37nqEY7znurUbQ1TZrWyw%3D%3D%26ch%3D8qBkFsOdSBDFVpMBuO2yRgC1LMGkGpVAI6SEDe07BOdoAOpXmVLcCA%3D%3D&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7Cfb16d424e9bb48f5d57708d99d89df49%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637714037766106759%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=IZXEfbDUUdUaSAHy3InxqZuMe5e%2FLXyUnPOPWnXtAR4%3D&reserved=0) | |

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| |  | | --- | | Featured Hosts | |

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| |  | | --- | | Cynthia Micklem | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  | | --- | | **Cynthia Micklem**  **﻿**  Cynthia Micklem, J.D., is currently the supervisor of the Juvenile Division of the Henrico (Virginia) County Commonwealth's Attorney’s Office and the domestic violence prosecutor. She prosecutes cases involving child abuse, sexual assault, strangulation, and domestic homicides. | |

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| |  | | --- | | Tammi Slovinsky | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | |  | | --- | | **Tammi Slovinsky**  **﻿**  Tammi Slovinsky, Ph.D., M.P.A., is a senior regional training and technical assistance (TTA) specialist with the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center. In this role, she conducts needs assessments to determine client TTA needs and coordinates the delivery of TTA for agencies and organizations to enhance their capacity to serve victims of crime. | |

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# Myra Strand Virtual Training



Please click [here](https://crisisshelter.salsalabs.org/myrastrandnovember102021/index.html) to register.

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# Strangulation Training

***Strangulation***

Corporal Angela M. Weekes (Retired)

*Strangulation has been identified as one of the most lethal forms of domestic violence and sexual assault. Unconsciousness may occur within seconds and death within minutes. When domestic violence perpetrators choke (strangle) their victims, not only is this felonious assault, but it may be an attempted homicide. This training will focus on the background of strangulation investigations. We will cover topics such as the mechanism of injury, evidence documentation, working with victims, and scene investigation.*

***WHEN:*** *November18, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

***WHERE:*** *Zoom*

***COST:*** *FREE*To register, please email registration form to [baileyw@winservices.org](mailto:baileyw@winservices.org)  
Or  
Fax: 717-264-3168 addressed to Bailey Wagner: Law Enforcement Liaison by Thursday, November 11

\*Angela Weekes has over 24 years of experience in law enforcement with specialized training in domestic and sexual violence, as well as child abuse. \*

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# NOVA Annual Training Event – Workshop Proposals

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| **The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) is now accepting workshop proposals for the**[**NOVA 48th Annual Training Event**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fr20.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D001YjSra_FzpgXm8qfkEdYu7KT04XUXzgH8DwkiSDVeSq8gh1LPMUofA1wgwsMsARk4FNSmhFxOXc0sclouM0ZJLWAJu4u7LdbyewllzUceMN-iVZ21ZIbmIeEOrDvksaBfteLsvMOoVQl-wGAb5Mi2QdmSjHAfh_xy%26c%3DvNB7knJaINbbk_08lbI38h62VC83QCDUKxyG3g4j7KS8aRt682wJuQ%3D%3D%26ch%3DA5ucdz2VIOskXCvMNOAZ1qQ_rc1MlhzU0dmXqZbQWjBhcj0gpnIrTg%3D%3D&data=04%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7Ce978a842ba2b487145b508d9997e39cf%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637709589690927709%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=1J%2BNiifAm5a3xMIN2bzTVRQAJvrYKlsrFkcmhQV9pHI%3D&reserved=0)**at the Downtown Denver Sheraton Hotel in Denver, Colorado on August 1-4, 2022.**  **The submission deadline is December 3, 2021.** | |
| **Topic areas of interest include, but are not limited to:** | |
| |  | | --- | | * Emerging trends and best practices in victim assistance and crisis response * Trauma-informed Advocacy * Neurobiology of Trauma * Crisis Response and Mass Casualties * Intersectionality and Inclusive Advocacy * Underserved Populations * Stalking and Interpersonal Violence * Sexual Violence * Hate Crimes * Child Abuse and Neglect | | * Elder Abuse * Poly-victimization * Undocumented Survivors * Technology and Cybersafety * Cyberbullying and Sextortion * Strangulation * Human Trafficking * Victims’ Rights * Ethics in Victim Services * Campus Advocacy * Multidisciplinary Teams and Community Partnerships * Leadership Building and Skills in Victim Services * Vicarious Trauma and Self-Care |

Please click [here](https://sectrans.trynova.org/ConfRFP) to submit your proposal.

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# Group Crisis Intervention Training

Learn the Group Crisis Intervention Model to respond to community trauma.

*Become KCIT Certified—Join a Statewide Team*

KCIT’s Group Crisis Intervention (GCI) is a secondary response that addresses the gap that exists in-between traditional trauma services offered. After a tragic event, first responders leave and a community may then be left on its own to navigate their path forward. KCIT can address large numbers of people at a time to help a community come together and to start to tell the story of what happened and connect them to necessary resources and services.

During a GCI a group is led by a facilitator through a series of questions using time progression—starting in the past, present, and then future. Questions aim to help participants sort through their experience of the event, sensory impact, reactions, and what they continue to hold as a result of the trauma. The group process assists in restoring connection and the feeling that “I am not alone” in my suffering. It is important to understand that a GCI is not therapy and is a onetime intervention.

**Length**: 12 hours

**Cost**: Provided at no cost!!! Funding made possible by PCCD

**Format**: Offered in four 3 hour sessions

**Dates**: Four Tuesdays in November

* November 9, 2021
* November 16, 2021
* November 23, 2021
* November 30, 2021

**Time:** 1:00-4:00 PM

*(Must attend all sessions to receive KCIT Certification)*

Please click [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsfu2hrjwjHtduOG3VxwEyI-b6OyHjCp-T) to register.

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# Third Thursday Series

**How to Engage in Courageous Conversations**

Nov 18, 2021 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

 Current events in our nation have made it more important for leaders to engage in courageous conversations, even when they are difficult or make us feel uncomfortable. Engaging in open, authentic, truthful dialogue in an atmosphere of trust and respect is the key to effective leadership for improvement, especially on issues of race, gender, socioeconomics and other social justice topics. In this webinar, participants will understand how to create a safe space for courageous conversations to occur and strategies to initiate and facilitate meaningful interactions.

 Presenter: Shileste Overton Morris, Ed.D., Director, Center for Schools and Communities

 Please click [here](https://csiu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIudu2urDktGNRyLHvX9g-rpJAGG0ulmRPX) to register.

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on November 8, 2021.

* Medical Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic –11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on November 16, 2021.

* Motor Vehicle- Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on November 22, 2021.

* Relocation Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic –11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on December 1, 2021.

* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Loss of Support Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on December 7, 2021.

* Basic Compensation Clinic – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on December 20, 2021.

* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Myths of Compensation Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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.

Please click [here](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=pccd&service=6) to register.

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# Crime Victims Council Of The Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley provides counseling, court accompaniment, medical advocacy, and prevention education at no cost. We want survivors and community members across the Lehigh Valley to know if something happens, we will be there every step of the way in any way possible.

Please click [here](https://cvclv.org/employment/) to view current job opportunities.

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# PAAR – Employment Opportunities

Pittsburgh Action Against Rape was incorporated as a non-profit entity in 1972 and has been providing essential no-cost services to victims of sexual violence in Allegheny County for over 49 years, and is the only agency solely devoted to the issue of sexual violence.

Please click [here](https://paar.net/jobs/) to view current job opportunities.

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# Neighborhood Legal Services – Employment Opportunities

Neighborhood Legal Services Association (NLS) was established in 1966 as a non-profit, public interest law firm to provide civil legal assistance to poor and vulnerable residents of Allegheny (and later) Beaver, Butler and Lawrence Counties.

Please click [here](https://www.nlsa.us/job-opportunities/) to view current job opportunities.

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# YWCA Greater Harrisburg – Employment Opportunities

**The YWCA Greater Harrisburg is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.**

Please click [here](http://www.ywcahbg.org/) to view current job opportunities.

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# Network of Victim Assistance – Employment Opportunities

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) is a nonprofit organization serving victims of sexual assault and other crimes. Located in Bucks County, PA, NOVA is the comprehensive victim services organization in Bucks County.  With a 45-year history, NOVA has expanded to include a continuum of prevention and direct services to prevent and address the needs of victims of sexual abuse and other serious crimes.  NOVA is known across many disciplines and the community at large for its exceptional services and professionalism.  With a 4.5-million-dollar operating budget, NOVA continues to grow.  As a mature and fiscally sound organization, establishing sustainability is key to our future success -- serving all victims who need services, educating the community at large on violence prevention in our community, and providing top-ranked professional trainings.

Please click [here](https://www.novabucks.org/about/employment/) to view current job opportunities.

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# Blackburn Center – Employment Opportunities

Blackburn Center advocates for the rights of all individuals to live free from domestic and sexual violence and other forms of violence by eliminating the root causes of this violence and providing for the well-being and safety of survivors/victims.

Please click [here](https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=blackburn%20center&l&vjk=83043166f9f125bd) to view current job opportunities.

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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 Lea Dorsey at [ledorsey@pa.gov](mailto:ledorsey@pa.gov).

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **November 17, 2021**.  If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Lea Dorsey at [ledorsey@pa.gov](mailto:ledorsey@pa.gov)  by Wednesday, **November 10, 2021**.

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 Lea Dorsey at (717) 265-8733 or via email at [ledorsey@pa.gov](mailto:ledorsey@pa.gov).

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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:** [@PaCrimeCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)m.