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*Chairman*

**Michael Pennington**

 *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

July 30, 2020

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=pccd&service=6&rnd=0.6668060301536507&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fpccd.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fprogram%2FprogramDetail.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26internalProgramTicket%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26siteurl%3Dpccd%26internalProgramTicketUnList%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26cProgViewID%3D1727107%26PRID%3D9c0a5f356b9ee12dc7de27fe147bb352)Compensation Related: Basic Compensation 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).

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

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# 2020 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards

The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented challenge for the victim service community. It has required victim service agencies to quickly adapt and rethink how they perform their duties to meet the needs of crime victims. Victim service providers across Pennsylvania have continued to deliver supportive services to victims in their time of need. Please take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of your peers who go above and beyond, not only during COVID-19, but all year long, to help victims of crime and nominate them for the 2020 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award.

**Nomination Deadline is August 31st!**

Award categories include:

* Survivor Activist Award – Those who have survived being a victim and have used that experience to make an impact within victim services.
* Outstanding Student Activist Award – Many students volunteer within their community and are dedicated to helping victims. College campuses have dedicated victim service groups that are doing good work to make an impact on their campus.
* Allied Professional Award – Look at the other individuals in your community that work as your partner to help crime victims.  Examples may include the police officer, district attorney or health care professional that goes above and beyond in the service to victims.
* Individual Direct Services Award – To the person who simply believes they are just doing their job, but you know they are doing so much more. A counselor, advocate, victim/witness coordinator, etc. These are the professionals that touch the lives of victims daily and go out of their way to help assist and/or empower those in need.
* Individual Prevention, Education and Outreach Award – The victim service professional that has developed and provided educational programming with enthusiasm for meeting the needs of victims.
* Community Services Award – Given to a nominee that has made a visible contribution and impact upon victim services in Pennsylvania.
* Individual Organizational Capacity Building Award – To the organization that is committed to enhancing capacity or the ability to fulfill its mission. This is demonstrated through becoming less reliant on government funds and they are ethical and accountable throughout their organization.
* Posthumous Award – Awarded to an individual that would have been eligible for any of the above categories, but sadly are no longer with us.
* Program Award – Given to a program that has made notable contributions to the community and has a reputation for delivering services within that community. The organization should be a stable, well established entity.

Nomination information for the Pathfinder Award is now available at [https://expressforms.pa.gov/apps/pa/PCCD/Governors-Victim-Service-Pathfinder-Awards](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fexpressforms.pa.gov%2Fapps%2Fpa%2FPCCD%2FGovernors-Victim-Service-Pathfinder-Awards&data=02%7C01%7Cc-aghoshda%40pa.gov%7C151ecf5c5f994059773208d8234dce35%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637298165116447996&sdata=HCo6VqFGee8UGY0AUL781GKkFFU1cKgb9Utsbp8vvYE%3D&reserved=0).

Please review all sections and downloadable materials to understand the requirements and the submission process. All nominations and supporting documentation must be submitted electronically from this website.

Since there will not be a Pathways to Victims’ Services Conference this year, awards will be presented locally during a mutually agreed upon time. PCCD staff or a member of the Victims’ Services Advisory Committee will attend to present the award to the recipient.

Please contact Mr. Greg Savage at (717) 265-8721 or gsavage@pa.gov with any questions.

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# PCCD’s Office Of Victims’ Services (OVS) Will Be Implementing Proration Process For VOCA Quarterly Report Data

PCCD has received guidance that the federal Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and the federal Office of Inspector General (OIG) expects states to ensure that VOCA-funded programs collect, and report victims served and services provided but be able to distinguish VOCA grant funded versus non-VOCA grant funded victims and services. This guidance is an effort to ensure a more accurate measure of the activities supported by VOCA and the direct impact of federal funding.

To that end, the Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) and OVC recognize that tracking victims and the provision of services to victims with VOCA funds, separately from other funding sources is not always possible. As a result, the OVC has provided states with information that outlines the use of data proration for program reporting.

Over the past 4 months, OVS has been working on developing a strategy for proration and guidance for agencies on how to do proration.  Beginning with the July – September 2020 VOCA quarterly report, VOCA funded agencies will begin reporting VOCA data on a pro-rated basis. OVS is preparing training materials and written guidance to assist you with the proration process.  We will be providing VOCA funded agencies with a “VOCA Proration Training” in August to help walk you through the process and answer any questions you have.  Please look for a future training announcement with the exact date and time for this virtual training.

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# RASA/VOJO 2021-2022 Funding Announcement is Now Open!

The RASA/VOJO 2021-2022 Funding Announcement for the funding period of January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2022 is now open**.**RASA/VOJO programs must submit their applications in Egrants by **Friday, September 4, 2020.**

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 contact PCCD if there are any questions concerning this announcement.Program-related questions should be directed to Vicki McCloskey at (717) 265-8746 or vmccloskey@pa.gov, or Maria Katulis at (717) 265-8741 or mkatulis@pa.gov.  Fiscal or budgetary questions should be directed to James Haas at (717) 265-8509 or jamhaas@pa.gov.  Questions concerning the Egrants system should be made directly to the Egrants Help Desk by calling (717) 787-5887.

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# Wolf Administration Awards Nearly $19 Million For Homelessness Assistance And Prevention

Gov. Tom Wolf announced nearly $19 million in funding awards to assist in mitigating the impacts of the coronavirus on homeless families and individuals and to prevent future homelessness across the commonwealth.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected housing opportunities, safety, and reliability for thousands of Pennsylvanians. As we begin to recover our economy, we must also ensure that our most vulnerable Pennsylvanians and those at greatest risk of losing their homes and housing stability are able to recover as well,” Gov. Wolf said. “Our homeless providers and partners are working tirelessly in their communities to end and prevent homelessness, and these distributions will drive direct support and assistance to counties in need across the state.”

Please click here to [read](https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/wolf-administration-awards-nearly-19-million-for-homelessness-assistance-and-prevention/) more.

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# States Taking Action: Law Enforcement

In the wake of the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and others at the hands of law enforcement officers, demands for state legislatures to impose greater accountability upon local police are starting to result in real action. As of July 17, 368 policing-related bills have been introduced in 29 states. And more legislation is expected when legislative sessions resume, as some states had already adjourned for the year when George Floyd was killed, and others had no regular session scheduled in 2020. Please click [here](https://csgjusticecenter.org/states-taking-action-law-enforcement/?mc_cid=daed944d03&mc_eid=b8fcb8a785) to read more.

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# For Many Black Survivors, Reporting Raises Complicated Issues

According to Department of Justice statistics, Black girls and women 12 years and older experienced higher rates of rape and sexual assault than white, Asian, and Latina girls and women from 2005-2010.Not only do members of the Black community experience higher rates of sexual violence, but they often feel they have few options for seeking justice and help due to a number of widespread institutional and historical factors. Please click [here](https://www.rainn.org/news/many-black-survivors-reporting-raises-complicated-issues) to read more.

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# The 2018 Biennial Report To Congress On The Effectiveness Of Grant Programs Under The Violence Against Women Act

In response to the reporting requirements authorized by VAWA 2000, the 2018 biennial Report to Congress on the effectiveness of Grant funds under the Violence against Women act (2018 biennial Report) presents aggregate qualitative and quantitative data submitted by grantees of 21 currently and formerly authorized discretionary grant programs administered by the office on Violence against Women (OVW). This report also presents current research on best practices to respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, which OVW uses to invest in proven strategies and solutions to further the common goal of ending domestic and sexual violence. Please click [here](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1292636/download) to read more.

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# [As Virus Restrictions Eased, Sexual Assault Survivors Accessed Help In Record Numbers](https://www.rainn.org/node/3809)

As states have eased restrictions over the last 60 days, a record number of people have sought services from RAINN. A total of 60,437 people received help from RAINN’s victim service programs in May and June, up 18 percent from the same period last year, and the highest number in RAINN’s 26-year history. “As states began lifting stay-at-home orders and some survivors finally had the privacy to seek out support, RAINN experienced a dramatic spike in people accessing help from the National Sexual Assault Hotline and our other victim service programs,” said Scott Berkowitz, president of RAINN. “In May and June, half of visitors to our online hotline, which sees some of the most urgent cases, were minors.” Please click [here](https://www.rainn.org/news/virus-restrictions-eased-sexual-assault-survivors-accessed-help-record-numbers) to read more.

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# Coercive Control During COVID 19: New Tactics

As COVID-19 spreads across the globe and into our homes, domestic abusers are finding new ways to exercise coercive control. This short video describes how abusers can exploit social distancing and shelter-in-place policies to achieve power and control over household members. Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/news/coercive-control-covid-19.html) to learn more.

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# This Is Not A Normal Mental-Health Disaster

The SARS pandemic tore through Hong Kong like a summer thunderstorm. It arrived abruptly, hit hard, and then was gone. Just three months separated the first infection, in March 2003, from the last, in June.

But the suffering did not end when the case count hit zero. Over the next four years, scientists at the Chinese University of Hong Kong discovered something worrisome. More than 40 percent of SARS survivors had an active psychiatric illness, most commonly PTSD or depression. Some felt frequent psychosomatic pain. Others were obsessive-compulsive. The findings, the researchers said, were “alarming.”

The novel coronavirus’s devastating hopscotch across the United States has long surpassed the three-month mark, and by all indications, it will not end anytime soon. If SARS is any lesson, the secondary health effects will long outlast the pandemic itself.

Already, a third of Americans are feeling severe anxiety, according to Census Bureau data, and nearly a quarter show signs of depression. A recent poll by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that the pandemic had negatively affected the mental health of 56 percent of adults. In April, texts to a federal emergency mental-health line were up 1,000 percent from the year before. The situation is particularly dire for certain vulnerable groups—health-care workers, COVID-19 patients with severe cases, people who have lost loved ones—who face a significant risk of post-traumatic stress disorder. Please click [here](https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/07/coronavirus-special-mental-health-disaster/613510/) to read more.

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# How Black-led Shelters Are Battling Racism Against Women Seeking Refuge From Violence

After eight years in an abusive relationship, Lisa Ogbole says she began to think about ending her life. 'I didn't want to wake up to see another day because first off, I was just in my own world ... if you know anything about abusers, the first thing they do is to cut off all your ties,' Ogbole said. ‘I was emotionally and physically abused by the one person that was supposed to protect me, and it took away all my self-esteem, my self-confidence.' Please click [here](https://vawnet.org/news/how-black-led-shelters-are-battling-racism-against-women-seeking-refuge-violence) to read more.

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# Kids Feel Pandemic Stress Too. Here's How To Help Them Thrive

As the pandemic continues, children are still mostly at home. Summer activities are canceled or up in the air, and many children are suffering confusion and stress. Parents may be stressed themselves, but there are ways to help kids feel better. Please click [here](https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/07/11/864540377/kids-feel-pandemic-stress-too-heres-how-to-help-them-thrive) to read more.

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# Key Findings From National Prevalence of Sexual Violence by a Workplace-Related Perpetrator

A new analysis on workplace sexual violence has been published, providing a new window into workplace-related sexual violence. This analysis provides information into specific types of sexual violence people have experienced by a workplace-related perpetrator and offers a closer look at the perpetrators of these behaviors. In the anti-sexual violence field, we talk a lot about community-level prevention. But what does that mean? And what does community-level prevention look like? Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/key-findings-national-prevalence-sexual-violence-workplace-related-perpetrator) to learn more.

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# What Is Community-Level Prevention, Anyway?

In the first episode of their new podcast, **Resource on the Go**, NSVRC's Prevention Director Jennifer Grove and Prevention Specialist Mo Lewis discuss what community-level prevention really means. Hear them grapple with the many uses of the word “community,” learn the litmus test they use to help figure out if something is really community-level prevention, and get more familiar with the ways we discuss this level of the Social Ecological Model. Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/what-community-level-prevention-anyway) to learn more.

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# Language Access Planning

Would you like to update your existing Language Access Plan? Apply today to have your plan reviewed! If you have an existing language access plan and would like one-on-one assistance with reviewing your plan, the National Resource Center for Reaching Victims can help! Staff from National Resource Center partner, Casa de Esperanza, are working with agencies to help them review and revise their language access plans to be more inclusive of all victims, particularly those victims from diverse backgrounds. If you would like to have your language access plan reviewed, reach out to Olivia Garcia at ogarcia@casadeesperanza.org or Leo Martinez at lmartinez@casadeesperanza.org to apply. Space is limited. Programs will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

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# Job Openings In The Office Of Victims’ Services

The Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) currently has vacancies for Criminal Justice System Specialists within the Victims Compensation Assistance Program. These positions are responsible for providing financial reimbursement/guidance and other compensation related services to victims of crime, their families and/or significant others, and other claimants.

You can apply for the Criminal Justice System Specialist 1 vacancy at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau>. In the Search box, type Criminal Justice System Specialist and hit enter.  If any jobs are currently open, they will be listed.  Unlike in the past, there is no examination where a prospective candidate can be placed on a list with a score.  Under the new system, the score you receive is for that particular job announcement.  Interested candidates will need to apply for each individual position.

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# Crisis Center of Lawrence County – Employment Opportunity

The Advocate is responsible for providing support to individuals and families victimized by domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes. Additionally, this position provides education and technical assistance to medical, school, and allied professionals, as well as community members, regarding the rights, needs and unique circumstances of crime victims and their family members. General duties include crisis intervention, legal advocacy and accompaniment, medical accompaniment, individual advocacy, transportation, safety planning, case management, referral to/collaboration with other community resources, systems advocacy, prevention and education services. Advocates are responsible for the maintenance of all client files including case note documentation and data entry into a data management system.  Strong communication and public speaking skills are required. Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Lawrence%20County%20Advocate.pdf) to learn more.

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# A Woman’s Place – Employment Opportunities

A Woman’s Place (AWP), a community-based social change organization serving victims of domestic violence, is seeking a part-time Resident Counseling Advocate.

The Resident Counseling Advocate works within AWP’s emergency safe house, assisting victims of domestic violence in achieving safety and self-sufficiency. AWP is currently hiring a 32 hour a week part-time position. Positions may include weekday, evening, and/or overnight shifts.

For full job descriptions and application process please visit our website: [https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fawomansplace.org%2Fget-involved%2F&data=02%7C01%7Csbrendling%40pa.gov%7C05605b711196466a36e808d7e6103c13%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637230829715543440&sdata=crkTLivE1w%2Bz%2FaffAbsTKBDUZRftplAHRgjpzYrABJ0%3D&reserved=0)

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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.

[**Data Management and Quality Assurance (DMQA)**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Data%20Management%20and%20Quality%20Assurance.pdf)

[**Licensed or Soon to be Licensed Clinical Counselor**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Licensed%20or%20Soon%20to%20be%20Licensed%20Clinical%20Counselor.pdf)

[**Part-time Human Trafficking Task Force Organizer** **(27 hours/week)**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Human%20Trafficking%20Task%20Force%20Organizer.pdf)

[**Training Coordinator**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Training%20Coordinator.pdf)

[**Bucks County Children’s Advocacy Center Part-Time Family Advocate**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Bucks%20County%20CAC%20Family%20Advocate.pdf)

Located in Bucks County, PA, the Bucks County Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC), a service of NOVA (Network of Victim Assistance), provides a safe and child-friendly environment in which the CAC staff, law enforcement, child welfare, prosecution, advocacy, medical and mental health professionals collaborate to implement effective and coordinated investigations of suspected child abuse and connect child victims and their families to medical, mental health, and other social services.

**Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Applicants must send a cover letter with salary requirements in addition to their resume to** **DebGH@novabucks.org****. AA/EOE.**

**NOVA is currently working remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.  Although the physical interview process is on hold, they are still reviewing all the applicants as they come in.  They will be conducting in-person interviews as soon as possible.**

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# NEW! Elder Justice, Protection Orders And COVID 19

As our country has confronted the COVID-19 pandemic, it has necessitated profound changes in the way we offer services to older survivors of abuse, and in victims’ ability to access needed supports. This webinar will explore the challenges and opportunities that arise in working with older survivors during a pandemic, with a particular focus on issuance, service, and enforcement of protection orders. Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/resource-center/resource-results/elder-justice-protection-orders-covid-19-recording.html) to learn more.

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# NEW! The Way Forward: Emerging Strategies For Crime Victims Of Color #4 Shaping The Future Of Healing Justice

August 4, 2020

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Communities of color and aspiring allies need time to breathe, relax, re-orient themselves with their authentic self, tend to legacies of harm and untreated trauma as well as connect to lineages of resilience. This interactive virtual workshop (August 4; 2-3:30pm) is designed to provide a community of support where participants may practice techniques to slow down and reconnect to their strength, creativity, and spirit.

Please click [here](https://reachingvictims.org/event/shaping-the-future-of-healing-justice/) to learn more and to register.

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# NEW! HAVIN Presents: Lt. Mark Wynn: The Challenges Of Dealing With Domestic Violence From A Law Enforcement Perspective

August 27-28, 2020

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Family Violence cases are some of the most difficult cases that law enforcement must respond to. They are challenging, frustrating, heart-wrenching and unfortunately our reality. Mark helps us understand these cases in a way like no other, including the critical role that law enforcement and advocates play in the crime of Family Violence from a Pennsylvania Crimes Code perspective. Please join us to help our community members live a life free from violence by holding violent persons accountable.

Topics to be covered include:

* Domestic Violence 101
* Beyond the Obvious-Avoiding Dual Arrest, Dominant Aggressor Determination
* Civil Liability in Domestic Violence Incidents
* Stalking and Counter-Stalking
* Sexual Assault-Myths and Misconceptions
* Injuries, Ambush, and Fatality: Assessing Threats of Domestic Violence Perpetrators
* Victim and Officer Safety
* Building a Community Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Mark%20Wynn%202020%20brochure.pdf) to learn more and to register.

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# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on August 4, 2020.

* Stolen Benefit Cash 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 August 12, 2020.

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

The following training will be held on August 18, 2020.

* Basic Compensation – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following training will be held on August 27, 2020.

* Restitution Basics – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation, which counts towards 2 hours, and DAVE training, which counts towards 2 hours and 15 minutes.

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

A recording of the Sexual Assault Counseling Claims Legislative Change WebEx is available [here](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=pccd&service=6). This training can be accessed at any time for viewing.

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# Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System

PCCD’s Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) offers its Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System to fill a need for easily accessible, high-quality, free training for victim advocates at PCCD-funded programs. PVST courses count for PCCD training hours and courses can be taken as the learner’s schedule permits. The PVST also keeps a record of a user’s course completion and credit hours earned.  The courses on the PVST are designed to complement, reinforce and enhance the PCCD Foundational Academy and the online offerings on the learning management systems operated by PCADV, PCAR and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association.

The PVST is resource center for PCCD funded programs and allied professionals whose work brings them into contact with crime victim populations to receive free, quality, and easily accessible training. The training is Pennsylvania-specific, web based, and can be taken on the student’s own timeframe. There are currently 28 approved programs, totaling 54 hours of training, on the PVST.

To access the PVST, please click [here](https://pavictimservicestraining.org/). The registration code is 7223.

The Victims with Intellectual Disabilities course presents concepts and steps when working with individuals with intellectual disabilities, their family members or guardians. The course focuses on Accessibility and Procedures when providing direct services. This course will provide 2 hours of continuing education units.

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# The Safety Net Project At The National Network To End Domestic Violence Virtual Technology Summit

August 3 – August 7, 2020

This unique event – the 8th annual Summit, but the first one held virtually – focuses on the intersection of technology and abuse. We will explore some of the ways technology is still evolving, including the dramatic increase in digital services in the work to support survivors, growing concerns around online privacy, and increasing detections of stalkerware during the pandemic. They will also address online hate and gaming, teens and tech, privacy and confidentiality during a public health crisis, and more.

Covering a wide range of technology-related issues, this conference will be helpful to advocates, social service providers, law enforcement, and legal professionals who work with survivors of abuse. The Virtual Technology Summit will include 10 webinars over the course of 5 days. Each session will include American Sign Language, Spanish interpretation, and closed captioning. Virtual Technology Summit will take place on the Zoom platform. There are concerns about “Zoom bombing” and security, but don’t worry – they will cover that too!

Please click [here](http://www.cvent.com/events/virtual-technology-summit-2020/event-summary-b2d6853c5c974555b3a5cbee9449007e.aspx) to learn more and to register.

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# UPDATE: Topical Training Announcement: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

In the state of Pennsylvania over 80,000 children are being raised by their grandparents, many due to the opioid crisis. In recent years legislation has been passed, pilot programs developed, and hotlines created to assist grandparents in taking on this overwhelming task. If you are interested in learning more about this topic and tools to help you when working with victims who are in this situation, register for this important training.

Monday, August 10, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Due to the recent COVID-19 restrictions announced July 15, this training will now be held VIRTUALLY via Zoom.**

**Registration closes on August 3, 2020**. This course is open to all victim service providers, including attorneys. Class size is limited to 75 attendees.

Please click [here](https://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500203&RegType=ATT) to learn more and to register.

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# Training Announcement: Generational Diversity In The Workplace & Communication Skills

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Learn how generational differences in the workplace and working with the public, especially crime victims, impact the ways we communicate and understand each other. This training provides tools for better communication among our colleagues, the public and our supervisors; and offers guidance to understand learning differences, knowing our audiences, and improving our messaging so that we can perform our jobs most effectively.

One week before the training: Please provide to Amy Smulktis any situations or questions you have where communications could have been improved, for discussion among the group.

**PCCD has approved this course for 2 annual training hours. *Class size is limited to 40 attendees***.

**Please click** [here](https://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500215&RegType=ATT) **to learn more and to register. Registration closes on September 1, 2020.**

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# SAVE THE DATE: VIRTUAL 2020 KCIT Conference: Conscious Resilience After Trauma

“Keystone Crisis Intervention Team is excited to share the date for our 2nd statewide conference, September 22-23, 2020.  The theme of our Conference this year is Conscious Resilience After Trauma.  KCIT’s focus on building Conscious Resilience is an acknowledgement of the impact and emotional toll that trauma has on our clients, organizations, communities, but more specifically—you—the helper.”

The Conference will be held as a VIRTUAL EVENT on September 22-23, 2020.

For Questions: please contact Donna Welsh at donna.welsh@novabucks.org

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# SAVE THE DATE: Network Of Victim Assistance Auction & Gala

Thursday, October 15, 2020

5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Warrington Country Club

1360 Almshouse Road

Warrington, PA 18976

This year's theme, An Evening in the Roaring 20's, will take guests back 100 years to the 1920's and will feature 20's themed food stations, dancing, drinks, entertainment and live and silent auctions. Auction items include a private dinner party at Bocelli's Italian Restaurant, a spring yard clean-up package, a garden tea party for 8, dining experiences, adventures and getaways, artwork, jewelry, museum, theater and sports tickets and much more! New auction items are added weekly. Event proceeds benefit NOVA’s work in both helping victims of crime and preventing violence through education and advocacy programs.

Tickets for the Auction & Gala are $85.00 per person. The dress code for the event is business casual or 1920's themed attire. To purchase tickets, make a donation, or receive more information, please click [here](https://e.givesmart.com/events/e1u/), or contact Jill Mann at 215-343-6543 ext. 6602. Those who are unable to attend the gala can still get in on the auction fun and bid on items online via [www.NOVA.givesmart.com](https://e.givesmart.com/events/e1u/), by clicking on "Register to Participate" and following the prompts.

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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 Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov.

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **August 12, 2020**. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov by Wednesday, **August 5, 2020**.

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 Stacie Brendlinger at (717) 265-8722 or via email at sbrendling@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.