**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Michael Pennington**

*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

September 16, 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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# Fact Or Conspiracy Theory? How The Spread Of Misinformation Threatens Effective Solutions That Address Child Sex Trafficking

For over 21 years, Shared Hope International has been dedicated to preventing the conditions that foster child sex trafficking, restoring and empowering survivors, bringing justice to vulnerable youth, and spreading the truth about domestic minor sex trafficking. Over the past few months, Shared Hope has received dozens of inquiries questioning the validity of various conspiracy theories. Unfortunately, many of these theories are unsubstantiated and can distract from the fight against minor sex trafficking. That being said, we have observed the recent emergence of a very real threat to our nation’s sexually exploited children: a mass spread of misinformation. Please click [here](https://sharedhope.org/2020/08/17/fact-or-conspiracy-theory-how-the-spread-of-misinformation-threatens-effective-solutions-that-address-child-sex-trafficking/) to read more.

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# OVW’s Podcast Patchwork Looks At Human Trafficking

One of the most dangerous aspects for victims of human trafficking is isolation. Trapped in a world where they are exploited for sex, labor, or other abuses, victims often rightly believe no one will even notice if they disappear. The need for human lifelines in our communities is what motivated Beth Hassett to get involved in the movement to prevent violence against women, as she explains in this week’s episode of the [*Patchwork*](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/podcast/human-trafficking-helping-survivors-break-free-housing-and-other-support) podcast. Please click [here](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/blog/ovw-s-podcast-patchwork-looks-human-trafficking) to read more.

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# The Latino Face Of Human Trafficking And Exploitation In The United States

In 2017, Polaris released its seminal report, The Typology of Modern Slavery, which for the first time identified and described 25 distinct types of sex and labor trafficking occurring in the United States at that time. The data the report was based upon was gleaned from a decade of operating the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline. Among the key takeaways of the original Typology report was that immigrants are extremely vulnerable to both sex and labor trafficking, in part as a direct result of their migration. Please click [here](https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/EXECUTIVE-SUMMARY-The-Latino-Face-of-Human-Trafficking-and-Exploitation-in-the-United-States.pdf) to learn more.

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# Understanding And Measuring Bias Victimization Against Latinos

Hate crimes or bias motivated crimes have the power to seriously impact people and their communities. These crimes are on the one hand deeply personal, in that violence or harm is directed at a person due to their immutable characteristics, and on the other hand, they are message crimes, aimed at striking fear in communities that share characteristics with the targeted victims. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (1999) defines a hate or bias-motivated crime as “a criminal offense committed against a person, property, or society which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin.” Despite the passage of state and federal laws, hate crimes continue to persist and for some groups have increased (FBI, 2018). In 2017, hate crimes increased 17% over the previous year and represented the third consecutive year in a row of increased rates of bias victimization (FBI, 2018). Please click [here](https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/253430.pdf) to learn more. Please click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxRX4Bpcfuw) to watch the Center for Victim Research’s webinar sharing key findings and implications

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# How Do We Get Out Of This Mess? Here’s A First Step

Chuck Wexler is Executive Director of the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), an organization of law enforcement officials and others dedicated to improving the professionalism of policing. Mr. Wexler recently wrote a letter to PERF members about actions that can be taken within law enforcement agencies to start a conversation about the culture of policing, bias and racial justice. Please click [here](https://www.policeforum.org/trendingaugust29) to read more..

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# Stress, Trauma And COVID: It’s OK To Not Be OK

These odd times we are all living through are causing emotional upheaval in ways none of us could have ever conceived and we continually struggle to grasp. We’re trying to navigate what none of us could have planned for while trying to make impossible decisions with either very little or far too much information. Do we go on that vacation? Should I send my child back to childcare or school? Do I go to the pool? Can I attend that birthday party? How do we properly mourn our loved ones with the inability to have a real funeral? If we cannot gather, will we wither? Google any of this right now and you will find yourself diving into a rabbit hole of experts, opinions and cautionary tales and leave more confused than when you hit “search.” It is scary right now. Regardless of how you look back and measure this time—someday—for almost every single person it will have meant loss. Loss of freedom, loss of a sense of security, uncertainty, powerlessness, fear, and for far too many—intense and unimaginable grief. Please click [here](https://thriveglobal.com/stories/stress-trauma-and-covid-its-ok-to-not-be-ok/) to read more.

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# [FreeFrom Releases National Report On Survivors' Needs And Challenges During COVID-19 And Beyond](https://www.freefrom.org/news/survivors-know-best-report)

In April, FreeFrom launched a Safety Fund to support survivors in getting and staying safe during this unprecedented time. As part of the application, they offered folks a space to tell them more about how they were doing financially.  
  
They heard directly from 1,300 survivors across 36 states and Puerto Rico about their financial health, the cost of experiencing abuse, what their needs are right now – including how much cash they need to stay safe – and how our society can best support them through the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Pease click [here](https://www.freefrom.org/news/survivors-know-best-report) to read more.

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# Penn State Offers Dating And Domestic Violence Support During COVID-19

Movement restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic have increased domestic abuse concerns worldwide. According to statistics released by the National Domestic Violence Hotline, calls within the United States were up nearly 10% during the spring of 2020 as a direct result of pandemic circumstances. Dating and domestic abuse is not limited to romantic partners and can include emotional, physical, economic, sexual and other forms of mistreatment and abuse imposed by family members, or others who are in close contact with the victim. Isolation and other factors may also make it more difficult for the victim to report abuse, or to find a safe space to initiate help away from their abuser. To protect and support victims and survivors of mistreatment and abuse, a collection of Penn State advocacy and support offices, including the Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response (OSMPR), Gender Equity Center, and Counseling and Psychological Services, has created the Victim & Survivor Support and Advocacy web resource, which aims to help students recognize and identify domestic abuse concerns and provide information and resources for support. Please click [here](https://news.psu.edu/story/630617/2020/09/02/campus-life/penn-state-offers-dating-and-domestic-violence-support-during) to read more.

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# How Sexual Assault Victims Become Survivors: Culture Counts

“Sexual assault is a persistent, under-reported, public health crisis. The fact that victims are far less likely to reveal assaults by known perpetrators than by strangers unfortunately allows abusive relationships to continue for years, undetected.  Having prosecuted sex crimes for 23 years and worked with these victims, I consider it apparent, as concerned friends, family members, and colleagues would agree, that appropriate aftercare is essential in paving a positive road to recovery. Research corroborates this reality, affording a detailed examination into what types of services are of most assistance to different victim demographics.” Please click [here](https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/why-bad-looks-good/202007/how-sexual-assault-victims-become-survivors-culture-counts) to read more.

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# Penske Joins Fight Against Human Trafficking By Supporting Truckers Against Trafficking

Penske Transportation Solutionshas signed-on to support and sponsor the Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) organization, a nonprofit organization that exists to educate, equip, empower and mobilize members of the trucking, bus and energy industries to combat human trafficking. Penske has also committed to certifying its over 5,500 truck drivers with TAT training. TAT provides companies with a training video as well as wallet cards that educate drivers on the signs of human trafficking and what a driver should do if they suspect it. Please click [here](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/penske-joins-fight-against-human-trafficking-by-supporting-truckers-against-trafficking-301120670.html) to read more.

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# Online Dispute Resolution And Domestic Violence

Online processes can increase access to dispute resolution for some domestic violence survivors. They can be out of reach for others who don’t have access to private space, reliable internet, uncompromised electronic devices, or basic technical know-how. Online dispute resolution can also expand opportunities for abuse. Mediators can’t afford to jump into online processes without considering certain core limitations.

The only thing mediators can see is what is on their screen. During online dispute resolution sessions, the only things visible to mediators are the things that appear on their own computer screens. Typically, mediators can see each party’s head, neck, and shoulders. Unless the parties are using virtual backgrounds, mediators might also see the space behind the parties, which can include very little or very much, depending on how the parties position themselves. Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/news/online-dispute-mediation-tipsheet.html) to read more.

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# 14th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report

For the fourteenth consecutive year, on September 12, 2019, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) conducted a one-day unduplicated count of adults and children seeking domestic violence services in the United States. This annual survey documents the number of individuals who sought services in a single 24-hour period, as well as the types of services requested, the number of service requests that went unmet due to a lack of resources, and the issues and barriers that domestic violence programs face as they strive to provide services to victims of domestic violence. This annual report is instrumental in raising awareness about domestic violence and the incredible work that local domestic violence programs do every day. Please click [here](https://nnedv.org/content/domestic-violence-counts-14th-annual-census-report/) to learn more.

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# Correctional Populations In The United States, 2017-2018

This report is the 23rd in a series that began in 1985. It provides statistics on populations supervised by adult correctional systems in the United States, including persons held in prisons or jails and those supervised in the community on probation or parole. It provides statistics on the size of the correctional populations at year-end 2017 and year-end 2018, and changes in populations over time.

Highlights:

* The adult correctional-supervision rate (adults supervised per 100,000 adult U.S. residents) decreased 21% from 2008 to 2018, from 3,160 to 2,510 per 100,000 adult U.S. residents.
* The percentage of adult U.S. residents under correctional supervision was lower in 2018 than at any time since 1992.
* The adult incarceration rate (adults in prison or jail per 100,000 adult U.S. residents) has declined every year since 2008, and the rate in 2018 was the lowest since 1996.
* The portion of adult U.S. residents in prison or jails fell 17% from 2008 to 2018.
* The correctional population declined 2.1% from 2017 to 2018, due to decreases in both the community-supervision (down 2.4%) and incarcerated (down 1.4%) populations.

Please click [here](https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cpus1718.pdf) to read the full report.

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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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# NEW! Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association / Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute – Employment Opportunity

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association and the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute are seeking a highly motivated **Grants and Administration Manager** to join their team. The Grants and Administration Manager is responsible for drafting grants and applying for grant funding annually from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and other relevant funding entities. The Grants and Administration Manager will be required to oversee the compliance of all state and federal regulations pertaining to grant funding and prepare and submit project modifications and quarterly grant reports. On an ongoing basis, the Grants and Administration Manager is also responsible for administrative office tasks including monitoring incoming training monies, managing consultant contracts, employee timekeeping, managing building maintenance, tracking business expenditures and preparing checks.

The successful applicant **must be** proficient in the use of QuickBooks, Excel, Word and Adobe Acrobat. The ideal applicant will also have experience utilizing PCCD’s Egrants system, have a background in office administration and be able to quickly learn and execute the varying job tasks with confidence.

Due to the governor’s order this position is temporarily remote, however, this is an in-person position located at 2929 N. Front Street in Harrisburg, PA.

A complete list of job duties can be found by clicking [here](http://www.ciclt.net/ul/pdaa/DETAILEDJOBDUTIESANDRESPONSIBILITIES.pdf).

Interested applicants should send resume, cover letter and salary requirements to Executive Director Lindsay Vaughan at [lvaughan@pdaa.org](mailto:lvaughan@pdaa.org).

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# NEW! Domestic Violence Service Center – Employment Opportunity

Change the world in real time ...

Domestic Violence Service Center has an immediate opening for a full-time (35 hours/week) **Staff Attorney** to work with a non-profit law firm to represent clients in civil legal matters with an emphasis in family law.

Applicants should have at least one year of experience in family law and victim advocacy. A law degree from an accredited law school and license to practice law in Pennsylvania required. Applicants must also pass PA Child Abuse History clearance, PA Criminal Background Check and FBI Criminal Background check.

To apply, please send resume to [skremski@dvsclc.org](mailto:skremski@dvsclc.org)

Domestic Violence Service Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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# NEW! PIRC – Employment Opportunities

The Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center (PIRC) is a non-profit agency that serves vulnerable immigrants through free legal services, education, and advocacy.

PIRC’s Immigrant Survivors Project (ISP), which is part of PIRC’s Community Programs, offers victim-centered legal services to immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking through a mobile law office model of service delivery throughout Pennsylvania. ISP is currently looking to fill two open positions, a [Supervising Attorney](https://www.pirclaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Supervising-Attorney-Job-Posting.pdf) and a [Staff Attorney](https://www.pirclaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Utility-Staff-Attorney-Job-Posting.pdf).

PIRC’s Citizenship Program, which is part of PIRC’s Community Programs, assists Lawful Permanent Residents throughout the state with their naturalization applications. PIRC’s Citizenship Coordinator supports naturalization applicants from the beginning of the application process through the interview and oath ceremony. PIRC works with local partners to ensure that applicants are able to participate in English and Civics Courses that prepare them for the exam portion of the naturalization interview.  PIRC is now hiring an [Associate Citizenship Coordinator](https://www.pirclaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Associate-Citizenship-Coordinator-Job-Posting.pdf) to assist the Citizenship Coordinator with intakes and naturalization applications.

For more information about PIRC, please click [here](https://www.pirclaw.org/).

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# NEW! Transitions of PA – Employment Opportunity

Transitions of PA is a nonprofit organization serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other serious crimes in Union, Snyder, and Northumberland Counties. Established in 1976, Transitions provides prevention education, professional training, legal advocacy, civil legal assistance, counseling, and shelter.

Transitions is seeking a [Chief Executive Officer](https://e879e9de-c05d-4cde-b29e-3e47b221e050.filesusr.com/ugd/634d25_294ecf1bbe8c4a9ea7ffc4bad291a1f1.pdf) with leadership and development experience to direct the management and expansion of its programs and facilities. Resumes will be accepted until October 5th or until the position is filled.

Interested applicants may send their cover letter, resume, and salary history to Transitions’ Search Committee at [admin@transitionsofpa.org](mailto:admin@transitionsofpa.org).

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# NEW! Mission Kids – Employment Opportunities

**Make a Difference for Children.** Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center: A Place of Healing and Justice for Child Abuse Victims is seeking a full-time Forensic Interviewer. The Forensic Interviewer is a critical member of our multi-disciplinary team, responsible for gathering detailed information about events from our most vulnerable populations, as well as facilitating the conversations with our multi-disciplinary team members.

**Great Team.** For the past decade, Mission Kids has been a leader in the field to protect and heal our most vulnerable children. The staff have an unyielding commitment to their clients, as well as each other. Staff are drawn to Mission Kids because of their commitment to the mission; but stay because of the organization’s investment in them.

**Great Work Environment and Benefits.**Mission Kids provides a supportive, collaborative work environment that focuses on the growth and development of employees. Great benefits package includes generous paid time off, self-care activities, 403b match, and a great health, dental and vision plan.

[Family Advocate Supervisor](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/MKFamilyAdvocateSupervisor2020.pdf)

[Forensic Interviewer](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Mission%20KidsFI2020.pdf)

If you are interested, please send cover letter and resume to [jobs@missionkidscac.org](mailto:jobs@missionkidscac.org). Mission Kids does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin(ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Mission Kids is an equal opportunity employer.

Mission Kids is a nonprofit organization with a drive to achieve healing and justice for victims of justice by providing collaborative services, advocacy, leadership and education. To learn more please see our website at [www.missionkidscac.org](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.missionkidscac.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7Csbrendling%40pa.gov%7Ce97dc5144cdf4442c7bf08d84854e405%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637338876852491507&sdata=SJCy9pLB8Solk%2B5Gkrd0ZW%2F3XgDVQ%2BkSPBzxvqG361c%3D&reserved=0).

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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.

[Administrative Assistant](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Administrative%20Assistant.pdf) – new!

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

[Forensic Nurse Examiner – Contractor](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/FNE%20(Contracted)%20Job%20Announcement%20-%20Final.pdf) – new!

[Licensed Clinical Counselor](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Licensed%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)

[SANE Coordinator](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/SANE%20Coordinator%20job%20announcement.pdf) – new!

[Thrift Shop Sales Associate](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/THRIFT%20SHOP%20SALES%20ASSOCIATE.pdf) – new!

[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** [Careers@novabucks.org](mailto:Careers@novabucks.org)**. AA/EOE.**

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# NEW! Child Sex Trafficking Recorded Webinars

The National Criminal Justice Training Center offers free webinars on child sex trafficking, including *An Exploration of Family-Facilitated Child Sex Trafficking* and *Sex Trafficking: Current Trends in Technology.* Please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/?utm_source=cc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2020-09-11-watch%20now%20cst&utm_term=recorded%20webinar) to learn more.

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# NEW! Voices For Justice

September 23, 2020

4:00 – 5:00 (pacific)

**The 6th Annual Voices for Justice** is the National Crime Victim Law Institute's annual fundraiser, which celebrates survivors of crime and the people who fight for their rights - from attorneys and advocates to volunteers and community partners.

Please click [here](https://ncvli.ejoinme.org/VFJ2020) for more information.

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# NEW! USDOJ Office Of Juvenile Delinquency And Prevention Webinars

[AMBER Alert in Indian Country 101 – Community Response](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/trainings/TR00178098/TRI0178114/amber-alert-in-indian-country-101-community-response)

September 16 | 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. EDT

[Substance Use Issues in Juvenile Court: An Overview for Prosecutors](https://events-na8.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1110525827/en/events/event/shared/default_template_simple/event_registration.html?connect-session=na8breez6fstyhbg9c72kh5r&sco-id=2919855716&campaign-id=002&_charset_=utf-8)

September 16 | 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. EDT

[AMBER Alert in Indian Country 101 – Community Response](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/trainings/TR00178311/TRI0178312/amber-alert-in-indian-country-101-law-enforcement-response)

September 23 | 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. EDT

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# NEW! ****Internet Safety****Back To School! ****Webinar Series****

[Caregiver Empowerment and Community Response to Online Youth Sex Trafficking](https://sharedhope.org/product/online-youth-trafficking-community-response/)

September 23 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

[Internet Safety for GenZ: A Conversation for & with Youth: Safely Navigating the Dangers of the Internet](https://sharedhope.org/product/internet-safety-for-genz-a-conversation-for-with-youth-safely-navigating-the-dangers-of-the-internet/)

September 30 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Law enforcement, survivors, and leading field experts will come together to answer important questions, such as:

* Why are children more vulnerable to online trafficking during the COVID-19 pandemic?
* How are predators using the internet to groom and traffic children and youth in my community?
* How is excessive internet usage affecting my child’s health?
* How can I talk with my child or teen about making safe choices on the internet?
* What can I do to arm my child or teen and my community against online predators?

Please click [here](https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/prevent/training/#upcomingwebinars) for more information about Shared Hope International.

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# NEW! OJJDP Announces Upcoming Webinars

[Surviving the Stand: How to Testify in a Child Sexual Abuse Case](https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/events/surviving-stand-how-testify-child-sexual-abuse-case?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=events&utm_content=webinar)

September 24 | 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. EST

[The Effects of Trauma on Children, Youth and Families](https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/events/effects-trauma-children-youth-and-families?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=events&utm_content=webinar)

September 29 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. EST

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# NEW! Suicide Prevention And Intervention For Victim Advocates: The EDC H.O.P.E. Curriculum Webinar With OVC TTAC

September 28, 2020

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST

This webinar will provide an overview of the importance of suicide prevention activities within victim services and introduce the EDC H.O.P.E. handbook as an important resource for advocates, including a guide designed specifically for those working in tribal communities. The webinar will offer tools to prepare crime victim advocates to identify victims who are exhibiting symptoms of suicidality, provide a brief intervention and referral to clinical mental health services, and provide ongoing support to victims. Please click [here](https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1154055844/en/events/event/shared/2918530361/event_landing.html?connect-session=na11breezmbyiudwxhmpmre2a&sco-id=2918438168&_charset_=utf-8) to register.

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# NEW! Victim Services For Incarcerated Women

September 30, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST

This webinar will present findings from the Urban Institute’s Evaluation of In-prison Programming: Addressing Prior Trauma and Victimization, funded by the National Institute of Justice. Researchers from Urban and the Center for Effective Public Policy will present findings from its national Scan of Practice including the extent to which correctional institutions address victimization and trauma among incarcerated women and seek to advance trauma-informed practices. Specifically, presenters will elaborate on the services and programming state Departments of Correction offer to address trauma and victimization, including community partnerships with organizations and agencies that work with women who have experienced victimization and trauma, and the challenges associated with providing such services. Presenters will conclude the webinar with recommendations.

Please click [here](https://secure.icohere.com/registration/register.cfm?reg=7576&evt=cvr-incarcerated&t=652291408&t=1599846064390) to register.

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# NEW! When Home Hurts

October 9-10, 2020

Friday 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Join the Eastern PA Conference’s Domestic Violence Committee for its third annual Domestic Violence Seminar.

After examining how domestic violence (DV) impacts women and men in 2018 and 2019, this year will focus on families, including its impact on children and youth. Learn various perspectives from the keynote speaker, professional panelists, DV survivors and attendees. All will share their wisdom and witness—that is, their expert knowledge, their diverse views and their often-painful but enlightening experiences.

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Domestic%20Violence%20Flyer%20August%20132.pdf) to learn more. Please click [here](https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=565884&) to register.

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# NEW! 2020 National Training Institute

November 11-13, 2020

Zoom (virtual)

Improve your response to victims of crime through **promising practices, current research, and effective programs and policies.**

Our multidisciplinary institute offers more than **80 victim-centered, practice-based, research-informed trainings** to sharpen your skills, connect with peers, and reach across professions, including:

* law enforcement
* victim service professionals
* attorneys
* members of the military and Department of Defense
* counselors
* allied practitioners
* policymakers
* researchers

The National Training Institute and the National Crime Victim Bar Association National Conference (NCVBA) are held in conjunction. Attendees of both trainings are welcome to attend sessions in either track.

*\*\*In order to receive continuing legal credits, attendees must be registered for the NCVBA Conference.*

Please click [here](https://nti.secure-platform.com/a/) for more information and to register.

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# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

The following training will be held on September 16, 2020.

* Loss of Support Clinic - 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The following training will be held on September 30, 2020.

* Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The following training will be held on October 7, 2020.

* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The following training will be held on October 14, 2020.

* Relocation Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The following training will be held on October 21, 2020.

* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” – 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The following training will be held on October 28, 2020.

* Basic Compensation – 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.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 24 approved programs, totaling 48 hours of training, on the PVST.

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

**The *Services for Older Adults* course identifies what resources are available for older (60yrs and older) or aging adults due them being the fastest growing population in Pennsylvania. As victim advocates, it is important to know about the resources available through Pennsylvania’s Aging Network that could make a difference in the lives of older adult victims of crime. This module discusses 10 services that victim advocates should know about when working with older victims of crime. Additionally, it advises what services and benefits are available, who governs those services and how to access them. Some of these services included are Legal, Health and Wellness, Home Support and more.  This course was developed in February 2019 and qualifies for 2 CEU’s as well as helps victim advocates who interact with Pennsylvania’s largest growing population to provide better care and assistance.**

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# Identifying, Investigating, And Prosecuting Domestic Violence Strangulation Cases

September 23, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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, especially to the point of unconsciousness, it is not only a felony but it may be an at-tempted homicide. Strangulation is an ultimate form of power and control that can have a devastating psychological effect on victims. The inability to breathe is one of the most terrifying events a person can endure.

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/UPDATED%20Strangulation%20Training%20Flyer.pdf) to learn more and to register.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov).

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **September 23, 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](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov) by Wednesday, **September 16, 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](mailto: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:** Paramecium.