

**Michael Pennington**

*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

February 22, 2023

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# 2023 Pathfinder Awards Nominations Now Open!

Nominations for the 2023 Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards is now open! Submitting a nomination is a great way to show respect and appreciation for the efforts made by our very own victim service advocates and allied professionals!

To submit a nomination, please use the link below to access the on line nomination form and then email the additional required documents to [RA-CD-PATHFINDER@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-PATHFINDER@pa.gov).  Please review the [Pathfinder Criteria & Eligibility documen](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Pathfinder%202023%20Criteria%20%20Eligibility.pdf)t to determine the suitability of your potential nominee and examine the nomination requirements.

Deadline to submit nominations is Friday, April 28, 2023.

***2023 Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards will be presented at a special luncheon on Thursday, November 30th at the Pathways For Victims Services Conference.***

Pathfinder Award categories include:

* Survivor Activist Award – Those who have survived being a victim and have channeled 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. Show them how much we appreciate their activism!
* 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 their Pennsylvania community.
* Individual Organizational Capacity Building Award – To the individual at an organization that is committed to enhancing the capacity of their agency to better serve victims in their community.

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# Workshop Proposals Currently Being Accepted: 2023 Pathways For Victim Services Conference

**Deadline: April 7, 2023**

Now soliciting workshop proposals for innovative, practical and inspiring sessions that will provide learning opportunities for victim service providers and allied professionals!

The Pathways For Victims Services Conference will take place November 29th – December 1st, 2023 at The Penn Stater Conference Center in State College.

Ideas for topic areas include, but not limited to:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Homicide Victims | Sexual Assault | Outreach Initiatives | Cross Agency Collaboration |
| Human Trafficking | Child Abuse | Multi-Cultural/Diversity | Organizational Capacity Building |
| Mass Violence | Elder Abuse | Underserved Victims | Non-Profit Boards |
| Victims’ Rights | Domestic Violence | LGBTQIA+ Community | Vicarious Trauma/Self-Care |

Click [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QSiOQSgB1U2bbEf8Wpob3qqhfxc0L8dJr_W0QDKxno5UODhSQTBQSFA4UzZPRTNDSE4xNUtLOE5CUS4u) to access the workshop proposal form. Required information for workshop proposal submission includes:

* Title of the Workshop
* Presenters Name(s) and Agency/Organization Affiliation
* Description of presenter’s experience with the subject matter
* Detailed workshop proposal including learning objectives and presentation style
* Workshop complexity level
* Intended Audience

Each proposal will be reviewed and scored by the conference workshop committee.  If you have any questions regarding the conference or workshop proposal process, please email: [RA-CD-Pathfinder@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-Pathfinder@pa.gov).

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# Supporting Teenage Employees Experiencing Dating Violence

Intimate partner violence at any age is a sensitive topic, but all employers should feel equipped to help so that survivors can feel safe enough to get help.

Please [click](https://www.raliance.org/supporting-teenage-employees-experiencing-dating-violence/) here to read.

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# Harrisburg Diocese’s Bankruptcy Case Ends With $18M Trust For Victims Of Clergy Sex Abuse

Three years after the Diocese of Harrisburg filed for Chapter 11 amid mounting claims from victims of clergy sex abuse, a federal bankruptcy court on Wednesday brought the case to a conclusion approving a plan for the diocese to set up an $18 million trust fund to compensate victims.

Please click [here](https://www.pennlive.com/news/2023/02/bankruptcy-case-concludes-for-harrisburg-diocese-an-18-million-trust-to-be-set-to-compensate-victims-of-clergy-sex-abuse.html) to read.

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# TikTok Looms As Growing Child-Exploitation Threat

The social media giant TikTok has emerged as the biggest, fastest-growing danger zone for children who are targeted by adult predators online, law enforcement officials and others who track child exploitation [told the Wall Street Journal](https://www.wsj.com/articles/tiktok-child-sexual-exploitation-children-teens-29f9ac2?st=bzf5he6oaa52iyn&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink).

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/tiktok-looms-as-growing-child-exploitation-threat) to read.

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# Court Watchers Form New National Network As Reform Tool

Advocates for court transparency have joined forces in collaboration with Grammy-winning musician Fiona Apple to launch the National Courtwatch Network. The network and its website, [courtwatch.org](https://courtwatch.org/), created a hub for the 30 independent Courtwatch organizations that operate across the United States, [reports the Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2023/02/15/courtwatch-network-launch-fiona-apple/?pwapi_token=eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdWJpZCI6IjQzMTQ5OTgzIiwicmVhc29uIjoiZ2lmdCIsIm5iZiI6MTY3NjUyMzYwMCwiaXNzIjoic3Vic2NyaXB0aW9ucyIsImV4cCI6MTY3NzgxOTU5OSwiaWF0IjoxNjc2NTIzNjAwLCJqdGkiOiIzMDhkOWM0My1iNGEwLTRkZmEtYWVmNi1iZDFjYzk2MTZmYTUiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy53YXNoaW5ndG9ucG9zdC5jb20vZGMtbWQtdmEvMjAyMy8wMi8xNS9jb3VydHdhdGNoLW5ldHdvcmstbGF1bmNoLWZpb25hLWFwcGxlLyJ9.ZI6Ag5dxVBms-cqfskiT8B-tZ2uihiVHCuJELVjvo18).

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/court-watchers-form-new-national-network-as-reform-tool) to read.

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# Increasing Access To Healing Services And Just Outcomes For Older African American Crime Survivors

This OVC-sponsored toolkit offers information and practical strategies to help identify, reach, and serve older Black victims of crime.

Please click [here](https://reachingvictim.wpengine.com/resource/increasing-access-toolkit/) to access.

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# Providing Effective Services To Young Men And Boys Of Color

This OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center on demand training features four lessons on best practices for serving young men and boys of color.

Please click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/TrainingMaterials/dspOnline_YMBOC.cfm?nm=wbt&ns=ot&nt=ymboc) to access.

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# Take Action Against Trafficking Of Black Girls

The 3-part video series, developed by Youth Collaboratory with funding from OVC, amplifies several voices from direct service professionals, researchers, youth and young adults with lived expertise, and multidisciplinary providers about emerging trends and promising practices for prevention and early intervention for Black girls who are at risk of being or are victims of sex trafficking.

Please click [here](https://www.youthcollaboratory.org/toolkit/take-action-against-trafficking-black-girls) to view.

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# Victims of Identify Theft, 2018

This report, based on data from the 2018 Identity Theft Supplement of the National Crime Victimization Survey, details identity theft experiences of people ages 16+, including type of crime, information source, financial loss, other impacts, and lifetime prevalence of identity theft.

Please click [here](https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/victims-identity-theft-2018?utm_campaign=ojpnews&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery) to access.

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# Interview with One Love Foundation

As a nonprofit that facilitates educational workshops from elementary schools to college campuses, One Love Foundation excels in their ability to speak to young people about understanding abusive behaviors in relationships and what healthy behaviors look like. Started in honor of the late Yeardley Love, a college student killed by her abusive boyfriend, One Love Foundation works each day to prevent such tragedies from happening again.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/interview-one-love-foundation) to learn more.

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# Black History Month and Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month

February is both Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month (TDVAM) and Black History Month. This year, the [National Resource Center on Domestic Violence](https://www.nrcdv.org/) (NRCDV) is honored to partner with and amplify the voices of Black youth leaders throughout the month of February and beyond.

Click [here](https://www.dvawareness.org/node/86) to read more.

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# Philadelphia Police Inspector Draws from her Own Grief to Address Gun Violence and Trauma

Altovise Love-Craighead, Chief Inspector of the Philadelphia Police Training & Education Bureau, is using her personal experience with grief to inform her work, training officers and connecting with the community through a trauma-informed approach.

Click [here](https://whyy.org/articles/philadelphia-police-altovise-love-craighead-trauma-informed-policing/) to read more.

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# Teen Dating Violence Prevention And Awareness Convening

Join us for a conversation on how we can make resources for violence prevention more accessible to teen and youth survivors in the Black community.

Feb 23, 2023 5:00 pm

Please click [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwofumqrz8oGtepOqZAfll4SDk5CTbhx4ug) to register.

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# National Alliance Of Victims’ Rights Attorneys & Advocates

National Crime Victim Law Institute’s Meg Garvin and Terry Campos, who combined have 35 years of experience in victims’ rights, will review key developments and lessons learned in victims’ rights from cases decided across the country in 2022. Building on these, they will look ahead and identify how these lessons can inform litigation and policy development in 2023.

February 28, 2023

11:00 AM – 12:00 AM PST

Please click [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/victims-rights-leveraging-2022-lessons-in-2023-tickets-511051417547) to register.

# Teen Dating Violence, Technology, And Toxic Behavior

Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 01:00PM

Teen Dating violence is a common issue that disproportionately impacts young people throughout our society. While technology is a common way that they build relationships, and gain insight about how they see themselves, and their peers.  
  
The influx of viral trends and hashtags online about relationships and relationship values (#relationshipgoals!, for example), can influence the ability for young people to differentiate between healthy and abusive behavior.  
  
Because unhealthy, abusive and violent relationships can have a lasting impact on the lives of young people, it is important that service providers and community members help them understand that social media can be a space where they build heathy relationships and connections. Join us for this 90-minute webinar as we discuss the unique ways teens use technology, the common ways that it is used to cause harm in intimate partner relationships, and how advocates can support and empower them as they navigate dating relationships.

Please click [here](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FkslKKLpQrCHlC2k1t_Ojw) to register.

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# Responding to Emergencies: Confidentiality Considerations

This webinar will focus on confidentiality issues that may come up when responding to emergency situations such as injury, illness, or death in shelter or at a local program.

March 8, 2023

11:00AM PST

Please click [here](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Uab_KtHmR5SsZurbBe62tg) to register.

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# Sexual Assault Lunch & Learn Series

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| |  | | --- | | https://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20230214/03/2f/c0/10/97b4145353ae90df3371a4d9_626x626.jpg |  Sexual Assault Lunch & Learn Series These modules are designed to provide information and support for survivors of sexual assault. Survivors are welcome to register for all sessions or for individual sessions. Materials will be provided by mail, and a mailing address is requested at the time of registration.   Questions can be directed to 1-800-563-6399 or [RA-OVAinfo@pa.gov](mailto:mailto:RA-OVAinfo@pa.gov?subject=SA%20Lunch%20%26%20Learn%20Inquiry).   Please share this information with survivors in our area.  **Module 1: Understanding Sexual Assault Trials April 19 | 12:00 – 1:00 pm** [More info and registration here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ft.e2ma.net%2Fclick%2Fcg21sg%2Fss6d4z4%2Fgnqcot&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7Cb9f9cf981cef4a81568008db0ec05a63%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C638119991546670707%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=guvjAC5b9wubIUsNznCBSR2yCZ%2B%2FGTa0L5jasOihSWE%3D&reserved=0).   **Module 2: Empowerment- a pathway to healing May 11 | 12:00 – 1:00 pm** [More info and registration here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ft.e2ma.net%2Fclick%2Fcg21sg%2Fss6d4z4%2Fwfrcot&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7Cb9f9cf981cef4a81568008db0ec05a63%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C638119991546670707%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=j0w096wYEHQQ2ENQe6lQGKWlYD%2B8%2BKSTMkXJ7GACkwA%3D&reserved=0). |

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# Organizational Stress: From The Frontline Perspective

March 30, 2023 1:00 – 2:15 pm

What is the number one stressor in the workplace? Is it the emotional or physical toll our careers take on us? Is it citizens or clients that demand too much with little or no support or appreciation? Those things can and are stressful, but research tells us it is the internal or organizational stress that causes the most damage. We expect demands from those we serve, but when it comes from the organization, it blindsides us.

Please click [here](https://ovc.ojp.gov/events/organizational-stress-frontline-perspective) to register.

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# Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: Basic Investigation And Prosecution

April 6, 2023 1:00 pm -2:15 pm

This presentation will provide investigators, prosecutors, probation officers, and victim advocates with insight into the culture and dynamics of domestic minor sex trafficking. These cases come with significant hurdles to overcome such as a lack of corroborating evidence or “compliant” victims. The presenter will incorporate case studies and real-life examples of trafficking prosecutions to provide the audience with a basic understanding of trafficking culture, terminology, and the unique circumstances involved in the trafficking of minors for sex.

Please click [here](https://www.ovc.ojp.gov/events/domestic-minor-sex-trafficking-basic-investigation-and-prosecution) to register.

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on March 1, 2023.

* Relocation 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 March 8, 2023.

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

The following trainings will be held on March 15, 2023.

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

The following trainings will be held on March 21, 2023.

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

The following trainings will be held on March 29, 2023.

* Transportation Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses 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 2.25.

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

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# Blackburn Center

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.indeed.com%2Fcmp%2FBlackburn-Center%2Fjobs%3Fjk%3Da7813124949a345a%26start%3D0&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C55711bd66e134df4e0a308db0f6e227d%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C638120737920949574%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BPRcHIMGOgTvyo3aNz5qUqbuWhHRCZFIOcbMFVpPtqM%3D&reserved=0) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center Of Montgomery County – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmissionkidscac.org%2Fget-involved%2Fcareers-internships%2Fforensic-interviewer&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C2a19eb17719e4d8fb46c08daeff871ef%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C638086147606254167%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jlV9H%2BdrDXz2pvO5FW3H0iFndoM5i3gSBS2I%2BaMLlNc%3D&reserved=0) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Court Appointed Special Advocates For Children Philadelphia County – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.idealist.org/en/nonprofit-job/813412aff8ff45f18b2509cb21644c63-casa-educational-decision-maker-advocate-supervisor-casa-of-philadelphia-county-philadelphia) to see current employment opportunities.

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# YWCA Hanover Safe Home – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.ywcahanover.org/who-we-are/careers/) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://pcar.org/about-us/employment) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Women’s Center & Shelter Of Greater Pittsburgh

Please click [here](https://wcspittsburgh.org/who-we-are/job-internship-opportunities/) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Turning Point Of Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.turningpointlv.org/home/employment-and-contract-opportunities/) to see current employment opportunities.

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The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **March 8, 2023**.  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, **March 1, 2023**.

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.