

**Lt. Governor Austin A. Davis**

*Chairman*

**Michael Pennington**

*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

May 4, 2023

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# Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program Stakeholder Feedback Survey

In June 2022, the federal Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022 was enacted. The law included a number of provisions designed to address gun violence and improve responses to behavioral health crises, as well as authorized new funding streams.

The [**Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP)**](https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/GunViolence/Pages/Byrne-State-Crisis-Intervention-Program-(SCIP).aspx) was among those funding streams and provides formula funds to State Administering Agencies (SAAs) to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives.

As part of planning efforts, PCCD is interested in hearing from stakeholders to seek their input on issues related to gun violence, behavioral health, and crisis response.

To that end, PCCD has developed the [***Pennsylvania 2022-23 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program - Stakeholder Feedback Survey***](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ByrneSCIPFeedback). The survey is confidential. PCCD welcomes feedback from all stakeholders and intends to use the aggregate results of this survey to inform the work of the SCIP Advisory Board as they develop a program funding plan for use of SCIP funds.

The SCIP stakeholder feedback survey can be completed by accessing the link below:

[**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ByrneSCIPFeedback**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ByrneSCIPFeedback)

**Please provide responses to this short, confidential survey on or before Friday, May 5, 2023.** Please also feel free to forward this communication to any individuals or organizations you think would be interested in providing feedback.

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# Attention VOJO Programs – VOJO Lapsing Funds – Please Don’t Forget To Use Your VOJO Funding By June 30, 2023!

Recipients of Fiscal Year 2022 VOJO (VJ) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2022 VJ Award Amount      $ XX

2022 VJ Project Period        7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023

**Reminders:**

This is a reminder that VOJO funds not expended or obligated from this funding source by June 30, 2023 will lapse.

Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2023, should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee

Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2023. An interim fiscal report will need to be submitted once the reported Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations are paid. A remark must be included noting the reported expenditures were attributable to the period 7/1/2023-6/30/2023.

Please reach out to the fiscal staff person listed on your grant should you need assistance.

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# Building A Safe Workplace And Community: Mitigating The Risk Of Violence

The American Hospital Association’s Hospitals Against Violence (HAV) initiative hosted the American Society for Health Care Risk Management (ASHRM) for a facilitated dialogue to explore challenges and current strategies to mitigate the risk of violence.

In 2021, HAV developed the [Building a Safe Workplace and Community](https://www.aha.org/system/files/media/file/2021/10/building-a-safe-workplace-and-community-framework-for-hospitals-and-health-systems.pdf) framework to guide health care leaders in their efforts to prevent and mitigate violence.

Please click [here](https://www.aha.org/issue-brief/2023-04-20-building-safe-workplace-and-community-mitigating-risk-violence) to read.

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# Gun Deaths Among U.S. Children And Teens Rose 50% In Two Years

The number of children and teens killed by gunfire in the United States increased 50% between 2019 and 2021, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of the latest annual mortality statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Please click [here](https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/04/06/gun-deaths-among-us-kids-rose-50-percent-in-two-years/) to read.

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# Economic Justice And Domestic Violence Advisory Council Advocate Compensation Recommendations

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) announce advocate compensation recommendations from our Economic Justice and Domestic Violence Advisory Council.  The Council is a long-term, in-depth collaboration of national experts in the domestic violence field working to advance survivors’ economic empowerment and financial well-being.

Please click [here](https://nnedv.org/latest_update/nnedv-announces-economic-justice-and-domestic-violence-advisory-council-advocate-compensation-recommendations/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=81ae5b9a-f315-4f16-b9b0-f9a667fdcea0) to read.

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# Non-Consensually Distributed Images

Recently Jennifer Klein, Assistant to the President and Director of the Gender Policy Council, chaired a working meeting with bipartisan state legislators from 12 states, alongside survivors, legal experts and practitioners, on proposed actions to strengthen protections for survivors of non-consensually distributed intimate images (NDII) and hold offenders accountable.

Please click [here](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/04/26/readout-of-white-house-state-legislative-convening-on-non-consensually-distributed-intimate-images/) to read.

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# Mental Health Awareness Month

NAMI is celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month with the **More Than Enough campaign!**

Mental Health America has a [Mental Health toolkit](https://mhanational.org/mental-health-month?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=34ee4e3f-028b-4717-95ab-fb554bbb5584) that includes information for the media, social media resources, and printable handouts.

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# Older Americans Month

The 2023 theme for Older Americans Month 2023 is ***Aging Unbound***, please click [here](https://acl.gov/oam/2023/older-americans-month-2023) for available resources.

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# How To Measure A Sense of Community

Feeling connected in your community is a protective factor against the risk of perpetrating sexual violence. Are you thinking about how to measure this in your prevention work? In this episode, NSVRC’s Evaluation Coordinator, Sally J. Laskey, talks with researchers Iris Cardenas, a PhD Candidate in the School of Social Work at Rutgers University, and Dr. Jordan Steiner about the Brief Sense of Community Scale and their study that examined the cultural relevance of one specific tool with non‐Hispanic, Black, and Hispanic college students.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/resource/how-measure-sense-community) to access.

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# Making Connections Within The Movement To End Sexual Violence

From The National Sexual Violence Resource Center, the SAAM 2023 Guest Blog Series wishes to uplift the voices of our partners and survivor communities to shed light on the pervasive problem of residual harm, second hand trauma, unreciprocated care, and barriers to receiving services that exist with the movement to end sexual violence.

The goal of series is to encourage more normalcy in telling our stories as advocates, to memorialize those lost as well as the work they’ve done, to end the silence of asking for help within the sexual violence movement, and to educate the public on the fact that no one is exempt from being victimized by sexual or gendered violence.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/saam/saam-2023-guest-blog-series) to read.

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# Gun Deaths A Major Factor In Child Mortality Increase

After decades of improvement, the death rate of children and teens shot up between 2019 and 2021. Gun-related deaths represented the largest share of the increase by far.

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/gun-deaths-a-major-factor-in-u-s-child-mortality-increase) to read.

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# NCLVI’s Rights & Remedies

National Crime Victim Law Institute’s Rights & Remedies shares the latest legal news and analysis of issues surrounding victims’ rights enforcement.

Please click [here](https://ncvli.org/ncvlis-rights-remedies/) to access.

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# Survivors OF Sexual Violence With Developmental Disabilities In LGBTQ And Transgender Communities Speak Out

Survivors with DD within the LGBTQIA+ community often experience bias and discrimination which impacts their access to services. Too often, people do not understand or personally know individuals with disabilities or who are LGBTQIA+.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/saam/survivors-sexual-violence-developmental-disabilities-lgbtq-and-transgender-communities) to read.

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# Intimate Partner Violence In PA

**PCADV and its Statewide Prevention Leadership Team are focused on using existing and community-based data to prevent and end domestic violence in Pennsylvania.**

Please click [here](https://pcadv-ipv-pasdc.hub.arcgis.com/) to read.

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# Supporting LGBTQ+ Stalking Victims: A Guide For Victim Advocates

This Guide is for victim advocates working with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) individuals who may be experiencing stalking.

Please click [here](https://www.stalkingawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/SPARC-Supporting-LGBTQ-Stalking-Victims.pdf) to read.

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# Sexual Assault Advocate And Service Provider Training

From the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Training & Technical Assistance Center's download center for Sexual Assault Advocate and Service Provider Training (SAASPT), a course designed to teach advocates how to provide competent, effective crisis intervention services to victims and survivors of sexual assault.

Please click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/saaspt/index.cfm?utm_campaign=justinfo&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery) to access.

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# Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examination Virtual Practicum

The Virtual Practicum teaches health care providers each step of a person-centered sexual assault medical forensic examination. Nurses can earn up to 19.5 hours of continuing education for completing course material.

The Virtual Practicum is also a valuable training tool for law enforcement, prosecutors, forensic scientists, emergency medical services, victim advocates, and others allied professionals.

Please click [here](https://evawintl.org/vp/) to access.

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# Fair Housing Trainings

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# Rural Sexual Assault Response Teams

May 8, 2023 02:30 PM

The Sexual Violence Justice Institute a program of the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault will present on the unique issues that rural communities face when establishing effective and sustainable Sexual Assault Response Teams.

Please click [here](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uCFIgsIgTyWBYWm9F4sfFQ#/registration) to register.

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# Making Victims’ Rights A Reality

**May 17 2023 2:00 pm**

This is the first installment of NCVC Presents: Countdown to Boston, a FREE webinar series leading up to the 2023 National Training Institute in Boston.

Join us as we discuss the current state of victims’ rights across the country, why victims’ rights are important to the proper functioning of our criminal justice system, and how you can help victims navigate their rights.

Please click [here](https://victimsofcrime.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zB2eU5vbTuuX9AP7KrUX6Q#/registration) to register.

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# 2023 PLAN VOCA-Funded Attorney Training

Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc. will be presenting the 2023 VOCA Grantee Mandatory Training virtually during the week of May 22, 2023. Ten workshop sessions will be presented each day via webinar beginning at 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM Eastern. Sessions will vary between 60 and 90 minutes.

Attendance at these workshops will satisfy the 10-hour mandatory training that PCCD requires of VOCA grantees in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit will also be offered for attorneys attending the workshop sessions.

The intended audience for these trainings is legal services programs, domestic violence programs and sexual assault programs who have VOCA grants. Others in these communities without VOCA grants are also welcome to attend.

**YOU MUST REGISTER FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL SESSION TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.**

Please click [here](https://palegalaid.net/events/2023-plan-voca-grantee-training) to register.

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# Group Crisis Intervention Training

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

*Become KCIT Certified—Join a Statewide Team*

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

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

**Length**: 12 hours

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

**Format**: Virtual and offered in four 3 hour sessions

**Dates**: Four Wednesdays

* May 24, 2023
* May 31, 2023
* June 7, 2023
* June 14, 2023

**Time:** 10:00-1:00 PM

*(Must attend all sessions to receive KCIT Certification and be present with camera on)*

Please click [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocuisqzstGtyLUT3_2mdmd2DuXOyTMfNi#/registration) to register.

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# Issues In Forensic Nursing

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023**

**9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Topics and Speakers:

Suspect Exams: Sgt. Joanne Archambault, CEO, End Violence Against Women International

Sgt. Archambault notes that most law enforcement agencies and forensic nurse examiner

programs have not established appropriate policies and procedures for conducting comprehensive

forensic examinations for suspects. The purpose of this webinar is to make the case for the

importance of suspect examinations and the collection of evidence from the suspect’s body and

clothing, to explore some of the reasons and barriers as to why this is often not done, to

provide concrete recommendations for overcoming these barriers and using suspect examinations

effectively in your practice.

After Sexual Assault: The Role of the Primary Care Provider: Susan Chasson MSN, JD, SANE-A, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program Manager for the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault Ms. Chasson’s presentation will allow SANEs to understand how to work with primary care providers to obtain follow-up care for sexual assault patients.

Sexual Assault Forensic Exams: Caring for Patients During Pregnancy, Postpartum, and Post-Abortion: Megan Crowe, MSN, RNC, SANE-A, Forensic Nursing Specialist IAFN

Ms. Crowe will discuss the prevalence and risk factors for violence during pregnancy and the postpartum period, best practices when providing care to these patients, and safe and effective medication options after a reported or suspected history of sexual violence.

**Cost:** **Free for PA IAFN Chapter members and Duquesne University Nursing Students, $5 for employees of a PA advocacy organization, $20 for all other participants**

Please click [here](https://pa-iafn.ticketleap.com/issues-in-forensic-nursing/) to register.

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# Training Series & Peer Support Cohort For Victim Advocates

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Please click here to register

[June 2](https://penncac.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/437)

[June 9](https://penncac.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/438)

[June 16](https://penncac.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/439)

[June 23](https://penncac.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/440)

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# Foundational Academy

The first Academy of 2023 will be held as follows:

**July 12 - 14, 2023**

The Graduate Hotel

125 South Atherton Street

State College, PA 16801

*This is an in-person training only; there is no virtual or hybrid option.*

There is no charge for Academy, and single hotel rooms, parking, and lunch are included. Participants are on their own in the evenings.

Registration will be open May 22 - 24, 2023 under the PDAI Training Calendar at [www.pdaa.org](http://www.pdaa.org/). Trainings are listed by date; you will need to scroll down to July to find the information.

Registration will be open for the above three days only. During this time, those who wish to attend the July Academy will be asked to ***apply*** for a spot. Information on funding and length of time at Agency must be completed as part of this process. Registrations will no longer be automatic and accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Instead, applications to attend will be prioritized by, but not limited to, length of time at agency, number of spots filled by the agency in 2021/2022, etc.

Once prioritized, the top 55 applicants will be notified of their acceptance into Academy. All others will be placed on the waitlist and notified of such. The selection process will take up to 2 weeks. All pending applicants will be contacted as soon as the lists are finalized. We ask for your patience during that time period; as a reminder, **we will contact you** either way.

As a reminder, Academy spots are only for those VOCA, VOJO, and RASA-Funded individuals for whom attendance is required per PCCD’s Consolidated Victim Services Standards. Additionally, only a maximum of 8 staff members per agency may apply for each Academy.

Finally, applicants must be able to attend all 3 days of Academy *in-person* in its entirety, as well as complete an additional supplemental online training requirement.

 If you have any questions or to request the supplemental online training form, please contact:

Amy Smulktis, Restitution & V/W Training Consultant E: [AJS@RestitutionConsulting.com](mailto:AJS@RestitutionConsulting.com) T: 717.333.2319

B: PDAA/I 717.238.5416/[www.pdaa.org](http://www.pdaa.org/)

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on May 10, 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 May 22, 2023.

* Myths of Compensation – 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 June 1, 2023.

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

The following trainings will be held on June 8, 2023.

* Motor Vehicle -Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Relocation 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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# CASA Youth Advocates – Delaware & Chester Counties – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.idealist.org/en/nonprofit/7c507692cc7546498212c8187312664c-casa-youth-advocates-media?utm_campaign=visitorshare&utm_medium=social&utm_source=copy) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Safe Berks – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://recruiting.paylocity.com/recruiting/jobs/All/30c7801b-0ca4-49dc-80bf-6558d7b75f0e/Safe-Berks) 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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# Women’s Center & Shelter Of Greater Pittsburgh – Employment Opportunities

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

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The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **May 17, 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, **May 10, 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.