

**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

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*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

March 9, 2022

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# VCAP Quarterly Discussions

VCAP will be holding quarterly discussions for those who file VCAP claims.  Our first virtual meeting will be on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 10:00-11:30 am.  For training tracking purposes, all those attending should register.  If you are interested in attending this discussion, please complete the registration form by Friday, March 18, 2022.  A link to the Microsoft Teams meeting will be sent on Monday, March 28, 2022.  If you have any topics you would like to discuss, please include them on the registration form.  We will do our best to cover any suggested topics.

Please click [here](https://forms.office.com/g/gLs7Y5qntw) to register.

Registration closes Friday, March 18, 2022.

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# ETO Virtual User Group:  Case Management Users

PCCD’s ETO Team in collaboration with PCAR and PCADV will be hosting a Virtual ETO User Group for Case Management Users on **March 29, 2022** from **2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** During the Virtual User Group, attendees will be provided an overview of the additional reports available to agencies (aside from funder reports required in monthly and quarterly reporting) and how to access them. The ETO Team will also be unveiling the newly updated ETO Help Page which will include the ETO User Manual, as well as links to recorded mini ETO trainings. These trainings will be helpful for new ETO users or existing users who would like a refresher on ETO functionality.

Please join us for this interactive ETO conversation and a technical assistance opportunity with Social Solutions! There will be a segment of the meeting dedicated to Q&A from the User Group Registration.

In order to receive the Teams Meeting Link to join the virtual event, please complete the registration form by **March 22, 2022**:

[ETO Virtual User Group Registration](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QSiOQSgB1U2bbEf8Wpob3qqhfxc0L8dJr_W0QDKxno5UQVFZMk9EUjZJT1JTQUQyVUZBSUNVWjY5TS4u)

A virtual user group for ETO Aggregate Users will be occurring in the next few months.  This meeting is only relevant to ETO Case Management users.  In the meantime, if you have ETO related questions or require technical assistance, please contact the ETO Resource Account at [RA-CD-OVS-ETO@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-OVS-ETO@pa.gov).

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# 2022 Pathfinder Awards Nominations Opening Soon!

We are excited to announce the nominations for the Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards for 2022 will be opening in the very near future. If you are interested in nominating an individual or program for one of the categories of the Pathfinder Awards, now is the time to consider who best embraces the spirit of the awards. 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! Nomination information for the 2022 Pathfinder Awards will be available soon!  Please review the [Pathfinder Criteria & Eligibility document](https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Pathfinder%202022%20Criteria%20%20Eligibility%20(1).pdf) to determine the suitability of your potential nominee and examine the nomination requirements. Watch for more information to come in the OVS Newsletter.

Pathfinder Award Categories:

* Allied Professional
* Community Service
* Individual Direct Service
* Organizational Capacity Building
* Outstanding Student Activist
* Prevention Education & Outreach
* Program
* Survivor Activist

If you have any nomination or eligibility related questions, please reach out to Timothy Ponessa at [tponessa@pa.gov](mailto:tponessa@pa.gov).

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# The Hidden Epidemic Of Brain Injuries From Domestic Violence

The numbers of domestic violence victims suffering from traumatic brain injuries dwarf those of football players and soldiers, but have received far less attention to track and treat the problem, the New York Times Magazine reports. Women whose heads had been repeatedly battered may be more vulnerable to concussions, but nearly all the research into neurodegenerative disease comes from studying male brains.

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/a-hidden-problem-brain-injuries-to-domestic-violence-victims) to read.

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# Firearm Violence Called Leading Cause Of ‘Years Of Potential Life Lost’

Researchers from the Westchester Medical Center, in Valhalla, NY  report that between 2009 and 2018, Americans have lost 12.6 million years of life because of firearms alone, [according to findings published in *Trauma Surgery & Acute Care Open*.](https://tsaco.bmj.com/content/7/1/e000766)

Please click [here](https://thecrimereport.org/2022/03/07/firearms-are-the-leading-cause-of-years-of-potential-life-lost-study/) to read more.

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# Human Trafficking Task Force Model Yields Progress, Opportunities For Growth

Innovative multi-disciplinary trafficking task forces, employing the Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking, were launched with federal backing in 2010. National Institute of Justice (NIJ) supported the evaluation of 10 task forces

These task forces were found to make a significant impact, in terms of applying more resources to the problem, driving more prosecutions, and creating more cooperation between justice agencies and victim service providers. Many investigations by task force agencies led to arrest and prosecution, with a third of those charges brought under trafficking statutes, the evaluation found.

Areas needing improvement, however, included better balancing of sex trafficking and labor trafficking prosecutions and reduced criminal prosecution of trafficking survivors.

Please click [here](https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/federally-backed-human-trafficking-task-force-model-yields-progress?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=articles) to read.

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# Online Harassment Resources

The NSVRC provides resources to helps victims of online bullying, harassment, or hate speech connect with resources to document, report, and heal from cyber-related harm.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/online-harassment-resources) to access.

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# Domestic Violence Resource For Increasing Safety And Connection

The Center for Court Innovation’s Domestic Violence Resource for Increasing Safety and Connection (DV RISC) is a national resource center designed to help jurisdictions enhance their approaches to reducing risk and preventing homicide in intimate partner violence cases.

Please click [here](https://dvrisc.org/) to read.

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# Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and the theme this year is “Building Safe Online Spaces Together.” Visit the [NSVRC website](https://www.nsvrc.org/saam) to access resources.

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# National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Visit the [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/) to access resources.

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# Monthly Monday Meet Up

Join OVA for our monthly Monday night meet up with the Victim Advocate Suzanne Estrella, for an open discussion to include

* Empowering Survivors
* Sharing News & Information
* Hearing Comments/Concerns from Crime Victims

Log on: Log on: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82904743900>

Meeting ID: 829 0474 3900

Dial In: +1 646 876 9923

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# Our New Normal: COVID-19’s Continuing Impact On Women And Children Of Color

Housing Up is hosting its first, virtual “Seat at the Table” panel discussion of the year about the intersection of housing, health, employment, domestic violence and the roles we can play in addressing the compounding crisis facing women and child of color today.

**Tuesday, March 15 at 6:00 pm EST**.

Please click [here](https://housingup.org/register-for-revisiting-covid-19-its-impact-on-women-and-children-of-color/) to register.

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# SAVE THE DATE: 2022 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network VOCA Funded Attorney Training

The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network will be hosting a free Continuing Legal Education (CLE) training geared towards Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) recipients on May 24th & 25th, 2022. We are planning for this to be an in-person event at The Harrisburg Hilton. The event is open to all VOCA funded attorneys who assist in providing legal services to victims of crime. Attendance is free. To ensure that this training is relevant to all participants, we are asking for your opinion on the training topics.  It is a quick one page, six question survey. Please take a moment to respond to the following survey.

Please click [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TMGMKNG) to access the survey.

**Please complete the survey before noon on March 16,2022**

Thank you for your time and your anticipated response! Registration and agenda information will be forthcoming at a later date.

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# Challenges With Statute Of Limitations In Child Sexual Abuse Cases

The National Crime Victims Bar Association (NCVBA) will host this webinar focused on challenges with Statute Of Limitations in Child Sex Abuse Cases. The intended audience for this presentation is victims advocates.

**March 16th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm EST**

**Please click** [here](https://victimsofcrime.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ny0nfFB7QviY0f6gTLKdew) **to register.**

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# Building Military-Civilian Collaborative Community Responses

The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA), in partnership with the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI), is excited to invite civilian victim advocates, criminal justice professionals, and professionals working with military-connected survivors to attend a **FREE** Virtual Training Course to expand and enhance support for military-connected victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

**March 22, 24, 29 and 31, from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm EST.**

Please click [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/military-members-and-families-march-2022-training-course-registration-227837366697) to register.

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# ****Principled Criminal Justice And Police Legitimacy****

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| --- |
| **FREE TRAINING**     HAVIN is pleased to present the following FREE in-person training:  **Principled Criminal Justice and Police Legitimacy**    Presented by: Sgt. Marcia Cole, IUP Criminal Justice Training Center Program Coordinator and Cmdr. Eric Holmes, MS, IUP Criminal Justice Training Center Instructor  **The student will gain knowledge on the principles of Procedural Justice, Community Policing, Implicit Bias, Cultural Awareness, and other topics regarding the strengthening of community bonds with the Criminal Justice System. The program is instructor lead.**  This course is interactive. Class participation is a MUST. Debate is required and opinions are encouraged.Agenda and Registration Link Below  **Thursday, March 31, 2022 Belmont Complex: 415 Butler Rd, Kittanning, PA 16201 Registration at 8:30 AM. Free Training 9:00 AM-3:30 PM Lunch will be provided from 12:00 PM until 1:00 PM. Law Enforcement reimbursement is available for time and mileage. Training approved by MPOETC for 7.5 CLEE credits.**  **Who should attend:** Law Enforcement, Members of Judiciary, Prosecutors, Advocates, Probation/Parole, Mental Health Professionals, Medical Providers, Caseworkers, School Personnel  **Registration Link and Agenda Below Registration Deadline: Thursday, March 24, 2022**  Please reach out to Jen Wingard with questions. Phone: 724-543-1180 x 205 or [jwingard@havinpa.org](mailto:jwingard@havinpa.org)  **Training is sponsored by HAVIN and The Armstrong County VAWA STOP Coordinating Team Award No. 34467  https://mcusercontent.com/8c3c0243173ce93a05d538d53/images/27ab7f64-1987-680c-4318-987e52209d52.jpg   https://mcusercontent.com/8c3c0243173ce93a05d538d53/images/6ab29c92-e451-3143-674d-d5c83ef4d2e4.png** |

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# Crime Victims Rally

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# July 2022 Foundational Academy

The next Academy in 2022 will be held as follows: **July 13 - 15, 2022** 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 16 - 18, 2022 under the PDAI Training Calendar at <www.pdaa.org>. Trainings are listed by date; you will need to scroll down to July to find the information.

**There is a NEW registration process for 2022:** 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/March 2022, etc.

Once prioritized, the top 60 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>

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# 2022 KCIT Conference Workshop Proposals

Keystone Crisis Intervention Team is excited to announce a call for workshop proposals for the 2022 **KCIT Conference, Healing is a Social Equation: Forgetting Community Care at the Cost of Collapse.**

**KCIT is seeking proposals** that highlight best practices, current trends, and innovative topics on the area of community care. The Keystone Crisis Intervention Team is funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and therefore all proposals must include a connection to victimization, trauma, or trauma healing.

The **virtual** Conference will take place Tuesday and Wednesday, September 13 & 14, 2022.

Please click [here](https://www.kcitpa.org/kcit-2022-conference/) to register.

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on March 9, 2022.

* Loss of Support Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* DAVE – The Victims Compensation Claim System – 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on March 16, 2022.

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

The following trainings will be held on March 22, 2022.

* Crime Scene Cleanup 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 March 30, 2022.

* 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 April 5, 2022.

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

The following trainings will be held on April 12, 2022.

* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation “– 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 April 19, 2022.

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

The following trainings will be held on April 27, 2022.

* Myths of Compensation - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on May 3, 2022.

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

The following trainings will be held on May 11, 2022.

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

The following trainings will be held on May 18, 2022.

* 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 May 24, 2022.

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

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation which counts towards 2 and DAVE training which counts towards 2.15.

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

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# Neighborhood Legal Services – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Safe Berks - Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.safeberks.org/get-involved/job-opportunities/) to view current opportunities.

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# Havin - Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?t=part+time+administrative+assistant&jk=aac45000bf1b2a10&_ga=2.146387511.2031953303.1645726216-1380596217.1642527416) to view current opportunities.

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# Turning Point – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Arise – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://ariselc.org/career) to view current opportunities.

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# Women’s Resources Of Monroe County, Inc – Employment

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

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# NOVA – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Adams County – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.adamscounty.us%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C4093edd2dc454f75d1b408d9ebfc20b2%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637800290688897259%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=fmimjnvq%2BWpfp1tYi4j%2BW1m9%2Fq3RxOlGXyI5nFIXdi8%3D&reserved=0) to view current opportunities.

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The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **March 23, 2022**.  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 16, 2022**.

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.