**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

April 11, 2018

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* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6)Compensation Related: Basic, Advanced-Counseling, Transportation Expenses, Restitution 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).

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

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# The 2018 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Resource Guide

OVC is pleased to present the **2018 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week (NCVRW) Resource Guide**. This annual suite of resources includes a variety of user-friendly sample materials, current statistics, professional artwork, and tutorials—all designed to help you quickly and capably develop and implement public awareness campaigns for NCVRW and throughout the year. NCVRW will be commemorated April 8–14, 2018. This year’s theme – **Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims.** – emphasizes the importance of inclusion in victim services. The theme addresses how the crime victims field can better ensure that every crime victim has access to services and support and how professionals, organizations, and communities can work in tandem to reach all victims. Join OVC and communities across the United States this April to raise awareness of victims’ rights and services, highlight local programs, celebrate progress achieved, and honor victims and the professionals who serve them. Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2018/?utm_source=ncvrw&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rg_release_3.5&utm_campaign=ncvrw_2018&ed2f26df2d9c416fbddddd2330a778c6=qonrmlioip-qlzrnaie) for more information.

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# New Online Resources May Increase Calls

Governor Wolf and the PA Victim Advocate, Jennifer Storm, unveiled a new online resource page for citizens who are experiencing sexual harassment in the workplace. Citizens have been encouraged to check this page to locate information on the laws that protect them, as well as **county services available in their area**. Our goal is to ensure that anyone in the commonwealth who may have been or is being subjected to sexual misconduct has a safe and confidential place to go for assistance.

You can see the page here: <https://www.pa.gov/guides/reporting-workplace-sexual-harassment-in-pennsylvania/>

The Office of Victim Advocate has underscored the Governor’s effort by adding an additional resource page on our site: <http://www.ova.pa.gov/Services/SexualMisconductInPA/Pages/default.aspx>.

This page includes

* practical steps to take if you’re experiencing sexual harassment in any environment
* how employers can take a stand in their workplaces
* ways that all citizens can support the social change needed to break the cycle of sexual violence
* links to the prevailing laws provided on the Governor’s site

Due to the media coverage and social conversation around this important topic, **your office may see an increase in calls**. While it may be difficult to remain equipped with all the tools to assist those affected, these webpages outline other resources available to citizens.

As always, we thank you for your tireless efforts across PA.

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# Statewide Victims’ Needs Assessment Survey Update

The results for both the victim survey and the community stakeholders survey are available on our [Needs Assessment Reports](http://pcv.pccd.pa.gov/Pages/Needs-Assessment-Reports.aspx) page on our PA Crime Victims website. More extensive analytical results (estimation and inferential analysis) will be available in late May, and a final report of the overall study will be available by June 30, 2018.

Thank you for helping to improve the availability of comprehensive victim services in your community.

If you need personal assistance please call 717-787-2040. You can also download our Victim Services app: [Android](https://play.google.com/store/pps/details?%20id=com.ionic.pcvapp) and [Apple](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pa-crime-%20victims/id1112970422?mt=8)

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# OVS Training For New VOCA Grantees

The Office of Victims’ Services will be offering an Introductory training to new VOCA grantees. Topics to be discussed include PCCD Standards, Policies & Procedures, VOCA Reporting Requirements, Program Monitoring, Civil Rights, Fiscal, ETO, and Available Resources. Three regional trainings have been scheduled.

April 18, 2018 – Pittsburgh, Center for Victims

May 10, 2018 – Philadelphia, Temple University, Office of Community Relations

May 21, 2018 – Harrisburg, PCCD

To register for this training, please contact Keith Lightner at 717-265-8737.

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# Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards

Submissions are now being accepted for the 2018 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards!

A Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award is the most prestigious award that Pennsylvania gives to a victim service professional or program. The award may be presented to one program and up to seven individuals who have made notable contributions to the program for which they work, the community they serve, or the field of victim services.

The awards process is slightly different on non-conference years. Normally, the awards would be presented at the Pathways Conference; however, since the conference will not be held this year, the awards will be presented at an event of the nominator and winner’s preference. This will provide an opportunity to have the award winners recognized in their own community where their elected officials, board members, family, friends, and peers can easily attend. The award presentations may be held anytime. It could be held during a local Victims’ Rights Week Event, at an annual board meeting, a special event, a County Commissioners meeting, or a presentation at the office. The nominator is responsible for coordinating the event and notifying PCCD of the date and location. A PCCD staff member or a Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) member will attend the event to present the award to the recipient.

The selection process for recipients of the Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award is highly competitive. To be considered, each nomination must meet the criteria and eligibility exactly as outlined. In preparation of your nomination, we encourage you to review the following documents on criteria and eligibility:

* [Nomination Packet Requirements](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Nomination%20Packet%20Requirements%20(2018).pdf)
* [Criteria and Eligibility for Award Categories](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Criteria%20and%20Eligibility%20for%20Award%20Categories.pdf)

[Submit your nomination](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.conferenceabstracts.com%2Fcfp2%2Flogin.asp%3FEventKey%3DFMDGMAAQ&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7Ceb2266ba09bd4325519808d588df43a8%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636565414852980632&sdata=L%2FALo23zD9k66c%2BLlnREx5s6U6%2BdQSifPSCRRlFo2zk%3D&reserved=0) today!

For questions regarding the nominations, please contact Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov) or 717-265-8730.

**The nomination period closes on Friday, May 4th at 11:59 p.m.**

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# A Reminder To All RASA And VOJO Programs:  5th Quarter Program Reports Due By April 20th!

Program reports for the 5th Quarter of the current 2017/2018 RASA and VOJO grants will need to be submitted in Egrants **by no later than Friday April 20th**:

RASA Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from January 1 – March 31, 2018

VOJO Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from January 1 – March 31, 2018

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**NOTE:  Please be reminded that all clients served should be counted as New again beginning in calendar year 2018, therefore, the RASA and VOJO Clients Served Sections in your quarterly reports for the period from January 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018 (5th Quarter of grant), should show the same number of New and Continuing Clients Served just as they did in the 1st Quarter program report in 2017.**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

Note:  Quarterly fiscal reports for RASA and VOJO grants for the same reporting period will also be due in Egrants by April 20th, 2018.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing your quarterly program reports, please contact Vicki McCloskey at [Vmccloskey@pa.gov](mailto:Vmccloskey@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8746, or Maria Katulis at [mkatulis@pa.gov](mailto:mkatulis@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8741.

For fiscal report questions, please contact the fiscal staff person listed on your grant.  For technical assistance with Egrants, please contact the Egrants Support Line at (717) 787-5887.

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# ATTENTION VOJO PROGRAMS - VOJO LAPSING FUNDS – PLEASE DON’T FORGET TO USE YOUR VOJO FUNDING BY DUE DATE OF JUNE 30, 2018!!!

Recipients of 2017 VOJO (VJ) and/or 2017 JRI (JV) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2017 VJ Award Amount      $ xx.xx

2017 VJ Project Period        7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018

                        And/Or

2017 JV Award Amount       $ xx.xx

2017 JV Project Period         7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018

**This is a reminder that *VOJO funds not expended or obligated from these funding sources by June 30, 2018 will lapse.***

**Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2018 should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2018.**

**It is the responsibility of the subgrantee to monitor these amounts.**

If you have any questions, or need to request a copy of your Award Letter, please contact the Fiscal Contact staff person listed on your VOJO grant.

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# New Project Modification Request (PMR) Guidelines

The alert below is a sample of the actual alert that the Project Director, Financial Officer and Primary Contact on all grants will receive at 30 and 60 days prior to the end of their grant:

The grant period for your PCCD grant is scheduled to end. All grant funds including all federal, state, matching (cash and in-kind), and program income funds must be obligated by the end of the current award period, and any obligations must be liquidated (expended) within 60 days thereafter. Unless a no-cost extension of the award period is obtained through an approved Project Modification Request, any amounts not obligated and/or expended according to these time constraints are considered unauthorized and are no longer available to support project costs. Please note that not all projects are eligible for a no-cost extension. Please see below for Project Modification Request guidelines. Should you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact the PCCD Program Staff Contact or PCCD Fiscal Staff Contact listed on the Project Summary page of your grant project in Egrants.   
  
**PROJECT MODIFICATION REQUEST GUIDELINES**  
**All Project Modification Requests must be submitted in Egrants, and the original, signed document must be postmarked prior to the termination of the project period. Project modification requests will not be accepted by Egrants after the end of the project period and PCCD will not review or approve project modification requests if the original signed document is postmarked after the end of the project period.**   
  
Please complete all sections (Summary, Budget, Justification and Performance Measures) by entering the requested changes and switching the section status to complete. If you have no changes to make to a particular section, just change the section status to complete. Once all section statuses are marked complete, click the Submit Modification button to transmit your project modification request to PCCD for consideration.   
  
**Your modification is not considered officially submitted until you click the submit button and the status changes to Open-Received and your signed modification request is received by PCCD. PCCD should receive the original, signed page one and, if required, page two within 10 days of the submission of a modification request through Egrants.**   
  
For **ALL** modification requests, you must print page one and possibly page two as discussed below. Click the Preview Signature Page button at the bottom of the modification summary screen to print your signature pages (pages one and two). The Project Director and Financial Officer must sign page one. Page two may or may not be required as discussed below:   
  
**Signatures are required on page two of the request in the following situations:**

A requested modification to the project period

A requested modification to the total award amount

A requested change of the project's scope or objective

If page two is required, you must mail the original signed page two along with page one. An official of the applicant agency with the authority to sign contracts on behalf of the applicant agency (i.e. County Commissioners, President of the Board of Directors, etc.) must sign page two. An appropriate attesting officer (i.e. County Chief Clerk, Secretary of the Board of Directors, etc.) must also sign this page.   
  
**Mail Signature Page(s) to:**  
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency  
Grants Management  
P.O. Box 1167  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1167

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# Anticipated STOP Formula Grant Solicitations Coming April 2018!

Staff from the Office of Victims’ Services are preparing to release three competitive solicitations for STOP Formula Grant Funding in April 2018. The STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program is a grant program under the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) that supports communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective responses to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. It promotes a multidisciplinary approach to improve the civil, criminal and juvenile justice systems’ response to these crimes and to enhance investigation and prosecution of offenders as well as advocacy and services available to victims.

These three solicitations fit within the current goals and objectives outlined in Pennsylvania’s STOP Implementation Plan as approved by the Office on Violence Against Women. You may view the Implementation Plan [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/finaldraftplan%204.24.17.pdf).

**Statewide STOP Competitive Solicitation**

The first solicitation is the regular STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Competitive Solicitation. A STOP program must be supported by team members from law enforcement, prosecution and victim service programs who agree to work together on goals and objectives aimed at reducing violence against women. This competitive solicitation will be open to all Pennsylvania counties. The project period will be for **TWO** years, and programs may request funding up to $125,000 per year. PCCD anticipates funding up to 30 counties under this announcement. Counties will be required to have established STOP Coordinating Teams, be working towards or have established response protocols for domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, and propose projects that fall within one or more of the 10 Federal Purpose Areas outlined in Pennsylvania’s Implementation Plan. Special scoring incentive will be provided for those applicants who strive to reach underserved, culturally specific populations and actively engage with local cultural organizations. There is a federal mandate in the award that at least ten percent of all STOP funded projects serve these populations.

**STOP Rural Project Capacity Building Solicitation**

Pennsylvania is a geographically diverse state, with over a quarter of its population residing in areas that are considered “rural.” The federal guidelines governing STOP require states to equitably distribute monies on a geographic basis including nonurban and rural areas of varying geographic size. While the STOP Formula Grant Program has been implemented in Pennsylvania for over two decades, some rural counties in the state have never been able to secure a STOP grant.

The STOP Project Rural Capacity Building Solicitation will be open to those counties that meet the definition of rural, as defined by the Pennsylvania legislature, and who 1) have not had STOP Formula Grant Funding ever before or 2) Have not had STOP funding since 2010, when the funding announcements initiated a competitive process.

Under the rural solicitation, PCCD expects to fund up to four rural counties that have lacked the capacity to form a full cross-system collaboration which is currently required by the general STOP funding solicitations. Rural counties who can demonstrate a need and the ability to improve their systemic response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and/or dating violence are eligible to apply for these grants. Successful applicants under the STOP Rural Solicitation must agree to participate in the following:

* Technical Assistance facilitated through PCCD for STOP collaborative team formation, policy and procedure development and response protocol development;
* Regional quarterly conference calls with other local STOP funded projects to discuss, emerging trends, initiatives and opportunities for greater collaboration.

The selected rural grantees who can meet the goals and objectives specified in the proposed project timeline during this two-year capacity building project period, will automatically become part of the next four-year STOP Formula Grant Project Cycle.

**Model Human Trafficking Pilot Project**

PCCD currently provides STOP and federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding to over 30 different projects that indicate that they provide services to victims of human trafficking. This is in addition to anti-trafficking efforts funded by alternate sources.

Through this competitive solicitation, PCCD will select one jurisdiction in the state to develop a model community-wide, collaborative response to sex trafficking of youth (ages 11-17) and adults. This solicitation will call for the development of a multi-tiered collaborative team to include 1) a leadership team responsible for the project and model protocol development; 2) a multi-disciplinary Steering Committee to set goals and objectives, oversee policy and engage in collaborative problem solving; and a workgroup of direct service providers who will provide feedback on the feasibility of proposals and policies/protocols developed by the Steering Committee and assist in the implementation/ testing process .

The successful applicant under this solicitation must agree to participate in quarterly conference calls facilitated by PCCD and an advisory team of state and national experts. The team will monitor the progress of the pilot program and assist in the development of model protocols, standards and cross training initiatives.

At the end of this project, PCCD anticipates that the applicant will have developed model response protocols for victims of sex trafficking; a set of guidelines, standards, and best practices for operation of a model anti-human trafficking program. The trainings and tools developed will be shared with all PCCD funded human trafficking programs.

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# PCADV Welcomes New Director Of Program Services

Heather Brantner has over 15 years of project management and victim services experience in the field of gender-based violence. She has served as a victim advocate for sexual and domestic violence survivors, is a teacher, and has conducted trainings for professionals in sexual violence work at the local, state and national level. Heather served as the Baltimore City Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Coordinator after it was discovered that the Baltimore City Police Department was unfounding rape cases at the highest rate in the nation. As the SART Coordinator, Ms. Brantner brought coordination and best practices to not only the police department but to all parts of the multidisciplinary system. She served as the speech-writer and consultant to the Mayor on issues related to sexual violence, collected and analyzed city-wide sexual assault data, audited sexual assault cases, and worked with victims who had complaints or concerns about the system.  
  
Previously, Heather directed domestic violence emergency and transitional shelters for six years, was a project director for a CDC-funded research project on domestic violence screening and intervention in community healthcare centers at Johns Hopkins Health Systems, created a sexual violence prevention and response program at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and conducted individual and group therapy in a community mental health setting. Ms. Brantner holds a Master’s Degree in Counseling and was an adjunct professor at Anne Arundel Community College for 9 years. In 2013, she received a Governor’s Citation for her work on behalf of gender-based crime victims.

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# National Victim Assistance Academy, Effective Management Series: Developing And Managing A Board Of Directors

Your board of directors sets the tone and direction of your organization, but how do you build a strong, diverse, and engaged board? And once you build it, how do you maintain member involvement? This training will provide a step-by-step guide on how to build an effective board and offer strategies for keeping members involved and accountable.

The training will be delivered online over the course of 4 weeks, beginning on April 23, 2018. Each week, except for the introductory week, will include a 75-minute facilitated webinar. In addition to participating in the webinar, you can expect to spend an hour per week completing written assignments, readings, or watching videos. *CEUs will be awarded for this training.*

All webinars are conducted from 3:00–4:15 p.m. (eastern time).

**Introductory Week:** Identifying and Cultivating Potential Board Members, April 23– 27. No webinar this week.

**Week 1:** Assessing Board Needs and Recruiting and Orienting Board Members, April 30–May 4, webinar on May 4.

**Week 2:** Involving and Educating Board Members, May 7–11, webinar on May 11.

**Week 3:** Evaluating, Rotating, and Celebrating the Board, May 14–18, webinar on May 18.

For more information about this training, please email [nvaa@ovcttac.org](mailto:nvaa@ovcttac.org).

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# Register Now: TF-CBT Therapist Retreat & Advanced Training

The Penn State EPISCenter is excited to announce the **TF-CBT Therapist Retreat and Training**, which will be held May 17 &18 in Mechanicsburg, PA. This event is designed specifically for TF-CBT therapists in Pennsylvania and will be an opportunity for networking, support, and expanding model-specific knowledge.

Therapists have the option of registering for one or both days ($50/day).

**May 17: Mindfulness, Emotional Awareness, and Self-care for Trauma Therapists,** led by Sebrina Doyle of Penn State's Prevention Research Center.

**May 18: Advanced TF-CBT Training,** with Dr. Anthony Mannarino, TF-CBT developer.  (Note: Only those who attended the 2-day training at least 6 months ago and have completed or are currently in consultation are eligible for the Advanced Training.)

Please visit [**Event Information & Registration**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.episcenter.psu.edu%2FETI_Home%2FEBP%2FTFCBT5_17_and_18&data=02%7C01%7Cccosgrove%40pa.gov%7C32ecc0c8ae604e8de77e08d598c05e29%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636582874340681452&sdata=AtVYMGWya5rynMdaLNR50YXRlapqZY75ME%2F9XRRotpw%3D&reserved=0)for more information and registration instructions. Registration will close on May 1st, but space is limited so please register early if you wish to attend.

*NASW-PA is a co-sponsor of this training. Up to 12 CEs (6 per day) will be awarded. NASW has been designated as a pre-approved provider of professional continuing education for Social Workers (Section 47.36), Marriage and Family Therapist (Section 48.36) and Professional Counselors (Section 49.36) by the PA State Board of Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists and Professional Counselors. (There is a separate fee for CEs - $15 for NASW members, $25 for non-members.)*

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# Save The Date: 2018 National Institute For The Prosecution Of Elder Abuse

The **2018 National Institute for the Prosecution of Elder Abuse (NIPEA)** is planned to be held August 7-10 in Philadelphia, PA. This is a three-and-one-half-day course designed to challenge prosecutors to reevaluate their approach to prosecuting elder abuse cases. Participants receive training on the dynamics of elder abuse as well as practical skills to successfully prosecute these cases.   
  
Questions? Please contact Ann Laatsch, NCALL Justice System Coordinator, at [alaatsch@ncall.us](mailto:alaatsch@ncall.us).

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# New VOCA Grantees: PCCD Approved CLE Training

Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc. has scheduled the 2018 PLAN VOCA Grantee training for May 23 & 24, 2018 at the Hilton Harrisburg.  Please mark your calendars.

This training will fulfill the PCCD 10-hour CLE annual training requirement for VOCA funded legal staff and is also relevant for any family law practitioners. It will be CLE eligible and there will be no charge.

The following is just a preview of the sessions that will be offered at the 2018 VOCA Grantee Training. Once the agenda and presenters have been finalized we will send out the full agenda.

* VOCA Grantee Restrictions
* Current Developments in PFA Law/Strangulation Bill/Current Caselaw
* Trauma Informed Advocacy
* PFAs and PSVI/ Stalking
* Custody/Divorce and Children’s Advocacy Centers
* Immigration & Human Trafficking/Language Access and Being Culturally Informed
* Working with Law Enforcement and District Attorney’s Offices/Victim Impact Statements
* Unique Features of Representing Elderly Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault/Power of Attorney
* Victims of Crime Compensation/ Resources and Legal Rights
* Effectively Getting Child(ren) Through Courtroom Testimony
* Counseling the Client as a Whole/Strategies Regarding PFA Cases and Related Relief Including Retaining Utility Services, Public Benefits and Special Rights for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

We will be offering 11 Continuing Education Credits, two of which will be Ethics credits for both full days of training.  Attendance is free.  The event is open to all VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) recipients who assist in providing legal services to victims of crime.

If you are interested in participating in the training and receiving 10 hours of free CLE credits, you can register at: [Registration VOCA Grantee Training 2018](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F2018-VOCA-Training&data=02%7C01%7Cvmcmahon%40pa.gov%7C2c5c9d1e95204e9d80ab08d58a8b7ef5%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C1%7C636567254109060359&sdata=ebN5kP7SLlufi2YJfQNpODIroawIDQ5l6x7H%2Fne9PZk%3D&reserved=0)

For additional information on this training, please contact Kelly Bock Yeckley at [kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net](mailto:kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net) or at 717.236.9486 x 201.

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# ****FY 2018 National SAKI Solicitation Released****

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking applications for funding to address the issue and impact of unsubmitted sexual assault kits (SAKs) at law enforcement agencies. This program furthers the Department’s mission by improving: 1) state and local jurisdictions’ capacities to respond to violent crime; and 2) the functioning of the criminal justice system, including the investigation and prosecution of cases related to SAKs’ evidence and the collection of lawfully owed DNA.

If you have any questions about the FY 2018 SAKI solicitation, please contact Angela Williamson, BJA Senior Policy Advisor, at [Angela.Williamson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Angela.Williamson@usdoj.gov) or (202) 307-5831.

**Applications are due April 30, 2018.**

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# OJJDP Announces New Funding Opportunity

Court Appointed Special Advocates Membership, Accreditation, and Subgrants Program and Training and Technical Assistance.

This program will expand the national membership and accreditation program for state and local Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) and make available training and technical assistance to support existing and new local and state CASA programs across the nation and CASA services in communities where representation rates are low, the numbers of abused and neglected children are high, and service systems do not meet the needs of families and children. In addition, the program will provide training and technical assistance in volunteer advocate recruitment and retention, volunteer advocate training, diversity, data collection and reporting, sustainability, and program standards.

For FAQs, please click [here](https://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2018/FAQ/CASA.pdf).

To view the funding announcement, please click [here](https://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2018/CASA.pdf).

**All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time (ET) on April 23, 2018.**

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# Compensation Corner - Statistical Reports

Advocates have access in the DAVE system to generate reports for claims field with the Program.  Advocates can only see claims specific statistics for claims submitted by the county they operate in, however, no identifying information will be available.  Advocates are able to enter a specific time frame and DAVE will generate the relevant information, such as the number of claims filed, type of benefit, amount paid by benefit and the type of victimization for claims filed by your agency or county.  Advocates are only able to view information for their specific agency and county which DAVE will automatically pre-fill for each report.  Advocates are able to retrieve all information pertaining to a claim as far back as DAVE’s inception in January 2002.  This is helpful to advocates when submitting quarterly reports on your agency’s activities.

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# PCCD: Two New Trainings Available!

Two new trainings are available on the Pennsylvania Victim Services Training web site!  
  
**ACT203: Advocating for the Victim**  
  
This training provides general guiding principles of what an advocate needs to do to provide competent advocacy for victims. The session focuses on what is needed when advocating for the victim, why advocacy is important, and examples of what advocacy looks like.

**CUL101: Racial/Ethnic Considerations for a Changing PA**   
  
This module will discuss the influence of race and ethnicity on how services are provided to victims of crime. As the diversity of the state continues to grow, it is important that victim advocates have knowledge of effective practices in communicating and working with increasingly diverse client sets.

How to Access the Training  
  
If you are receiving this email, then you are already registered for the PVST! Log in to [https://pavictimservicestraining.org](https://pavictimservicestraining.org/) using your email address as your user name to access this new training! If others at your organization would like to register for the training system, the registration token is 7223.

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# ****Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings****

The following trainings will be held on April 17, 2018

Loss of Earnings Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88608756876717402) to register.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88608850064715111) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 1, 2018

Relocation Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609123693768067) to register.

Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609205211114889) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 9, 2018

 Loss of Support Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609339333422790) to register.

 Transportation Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609396440968912) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 17, 2018

Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609464590020308) to register.

Counseling Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609522441006812) to register.

The following trainings will be held on May 21, 2018

Basic Compensation - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609609311334118) to register.

”Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=88609544428596959) to register.

DAVE WebEx trainings

* 6/28/2018 at 1:00 p.m. [Click here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcopa.webex.com%2Fcopa%2Fk2%2Fj.php%3FMTID%3Dta7e2da0e346e56da0299a270258de53d&data=02%7C01%7Cdpotter%40pa.gov%7C21bfb1c2eb934e2b048908d57557e5c6%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636543942737135253&sdata=RxCJ%2BZaR%2FqRnh7OgjfFnGsyD0PE7%2BE%2FVNewqy6mBgOM%3D&reserved=0) to register.
* *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.*

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# PCCD Approved Annual Trainings:

Strangulation Webinar

Thursday, May 10, 2018

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

*(Approved for 1.0 hour of PCCD Annual Training)*

In this webinar, Rachel Haynes Pinsker, JD, Legal Services Manager of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, will explore the lethality of strangulation, a common form of abuse in intimate partner relationships. She will examine Pennsylvania’s strangulation law which makes it a felony to strangle an intimate partner and will also identify resources and services for victims of intimate partner violence.

Objectives:

1. Recognize danger and lethality strangulation poses.

2. Identify forms of strangulation.

3. Understand Pennsylvania’s strangulation law.

4. Identify resources and services available for victims of domestic violence.

To register, please click [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcopa.webex.com%2Fcopa%2Fonstage%2Fg.php%3FMTID%3De6307d10c94ad922851fe467378bb2b0e&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C5c757887c641450b886e08d5942085ea%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C1%7C636577789771435745&sdata=aNDDpd3kM51qXBRTwjYfn5n9ycsXS%2FBuaMZH61C2MgQ%3D&reserved=0).

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# OVC: Stalking Fact Sheet

Stalking is generally defined as a pattern of behavior that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. Although a crime throughout the United States (including Territories and many Tribal Codes) and an offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, stalking varies widely in statute definition, scope, crime classification, and associated penalties. In part because stalking is composed of individual acts that could, in isolation, seem benign or be noncriminal, it is under-identified by the criminal justice system and underreported by victims—less than half of stalking victimizations are reported to the police. Stalking is linked to both intimate partner violence and sexual assault, and often has a significant traumatic effect on its victims. Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2017/images/en_artwork/Fact_Sheets/2017NCVRW_Stalking_508.pdf) to learn more.

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# National Association Of School Psychologists: School Safety & Crisis

School psychologists are uniquely qualified members of school teams that support students' abilities to learn and teachers' abilities to teach. They apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior, to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. School psychologists partner with families, teachers, school administrators, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections among home, school, and the community.

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) represents and supports the profession of school psychology by advancing effective practices to improve students' learning, behavior and mental health and maintaining essential standards for ethics and practice.

NASP has made these resources available to the public in order to promote the ability of children and youth to cope with traumatic or unsettling events. You may use all or any portion of the school safety and crisis documents on this webpage solely for educational, non-commercial use, provided you do not remove any trademark, copyright or other notice contained in such document. Additionally, the integrity of the content must be maintained and NASP must be given proper credit. No other use is permitted unless otherwise expressly permitted by NASP. Please click [here](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources/school-safety-and-crisis) to learn more.

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# Centers For Disease Control And Prevention: School Violence: Data & Statistics

The first step in preventing school violence is to understand the extent and nature of the problem. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Justice gather and analyze data from a variety of sources to gain a more complete understanding of school violence. According to CDC’s Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), nearly 8% of students had been in a physical fight on school property one or more times during the 12 months before the survey. Nationwide, about 6% of students had not gone to school at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey because they felt they would be unsafe at school or on their way to or from school. Please click [here](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/schoolviolence/data_stats.html) to view Fact Sheets and Data Sources.

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# Speak Up! Break The Silence!

Saturday, April 21, 2018

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Temple University – Shusterman Hall

1834 Liacouras Walk

Philadelphia, PA 19121

FREE event for ages 14 & older; HIV & breast cancer screening; food; parking!

Live Music and Entertainment

Workshops Topics:

* Healthy Relationships
* Financial Literacy
* College/Career Readiness
* Positive Parenting
* Health Wellness

Keynote Speaker: Lena Cohen, Emotional Intelligence Navigator, Author & Coach.

For more information, please contact NCVS at 215-763-3280. To register for tickets, please text WEC18 to 41444

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# Advoz: 2018 Trainings Now Open

**Basic Mediation Training**

May 3-5, 9:00am – 5:00pm

Want to feel prepared to handle constructively conflicts that crop up in your personal and professional life? And help others in their conflict? This course introduces you to each stage of the mediation process and to practice being a mediator through multiple role plays.  The communication and conflict resolution skills that a mediator models will also be taught and practiced in the training.

Learn about and practice:

• Communication methods

• Conflict resolution skills

• The mediation process

• Ethics

Practice being a mediator through multiple role plays. Equips you for basic use of mediation in a personal and professional context. Advanced training and mentoring available afterward through Advoz.

Full fee of $475 includes training materials, lunch and refreshments, all led by experienced professional trainers. Discounts and scholarships available.

Registration deadline is April 26th. Members of PA Council of Mediators receive an additional $50 discount.  Please contact us to learn more about discount and scholarship opportunities.

*Continuing education (CEU) is available for social workers, professional counselors and family therapists and continuing legal education (CLEs) is available for attorneys for an additional $50.*

To learn more about the trainings and register directly, please click [here](https://advoz.org/training/). If you have any questions, please contact Angela Keen at 717.397.2404, or [angela@advoz.org](mailto:angela@advoz.org).

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# Campus Safety – Roundtables Across The State

862 Pennsylvanians between the ages of 15 and 24 died from drug overdoses in 2016… 1,700 college students die each year from alcohol-related injuries… One in five young adults experiences a mental health condition… Students of college age are at higher risk for sexual violence than other age groups…

In 2017 Attorney General Josh Shapiro launched a campus safety initiative bringing students, university leaders, health professionals and law enforcement together to address drug and alcohol abuse, mental health and sexual assault on university campuses. Community-based roundtables were held at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University. This Spring the series of roundtables will continue across the Commonwealth; taking place at Lincoln University, University of Pittsburgh, and Dickinson College.  These roundtables will once again bring together students, victim advocates, survivors, local law enforcement, college and university staff, and experts from different fields. In collaborative working groups, participants will identify strategies and promote responses that are survivor-centered and trauma-informed.

We’re calling out to everyone who has a stake in these critical issues to bring their knowledge and expertise to the table. The conversation must be community-driven to be effective, and we’re looking for a broad, diverse group of individuals from a wide range of backgrounds to participate in our upcoming roundtables.

Roundtables will take place at University of Pittsburgh on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 and Dickinson College on Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

[University of Pittsburgh](https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/University_Pittsburgh_Registration_2018.pdf), Wednesday, April 25, 2018 – Registration closes April 19, 2018

[Dickinson College](https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Dickinson_College_Registration_2018.pdf),  Wednesday, May 16, 2018 – Registration closes May 10, 2018

For more information, please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Campus%20Safety%20Announcement.pdf).

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# BWJP: Training Opportunities

**Abuser Intervention Programs: Where Have We Been And Where Are We Headed?**

**Wednesday, April 18, 2018 / 2-3:30 pm. CDT**

This webinar will focus on current practices and issues related to Batterer Intervention Programs (BIPs).  David Adams of Emerge and Melissa Petrangelo Scaia, former executive director of the Duluth Model and current Director of International Training at Global Rights for Women have worked with men who batter in BIPs for over 20 years each.  They will share their historical perspective on BIPs, current practices and trends related to BIPs across the US.  Melissa will also share a pilot project she is working on related to offering a BIP using video conference technology.

Please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-abuse-intervention-programs.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=704642eea4-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_03_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-704642eea4-132881353) to register.

**Promising Community Practices: The High At-Risk Team, Bristol County, Massachusetts**

**Thursday, April 26, 2018 / 2-3:30 p.m. CDT**

The High At-Risk Team (HART) program of Bristol County, MA is an innovative community effort to focus resources on the most dangerous and repeat domestic violence offenders in order to keep victims safe. Assistant District Attorney Courtney Cahill will describe how she launched the program in Bristol County and how the high-risk offender list was established. She will detail the ways in which various system practitioners from advocacy to probation are able to use the list to hold these offenders accountable. She will also share innovative strategies for sharing information and collaborating among partners.

Please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-promising-community-practices-HART-Bristol-MA.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=998edec824-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_03_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-998edec824-132881353) to register.

Managing Your Most Dangerous Offenders: Firearms, Stalking, and Strangulation Cases

June 18-20, 2018 / San Diego, California

Domestic Violence (DV) offenders who strangle, stalk, or use firearms to intimidate, threaten, or assault their victims are among the most dangerous offenders on any probation agent’s case load. Supervision of these offenders is challenging, yet it presents opportunities to increase victim safety. When the severity, dangerousness, and impact of these crimes are acknowledged by the court and by probation, both the offender and the victim are sent a strong message: this will not be tolerated by the criminal legal system or by the community. Participants will have the opportunity to work with experienced probation agents from around the county and other national DV experts to explore promising practices of local communities working to address these offenders. You will gain hands-on skills and the knowledge to build better practices and policies to implement in your community.

To learn more and to register, please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/managing_your_most_dangerous_offenders_firearms_stalking_and_strangulation_cases.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=1b21e2cd21-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_04_18&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-1b21e2cd21-132881353).

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# PCCD STOP Grantee Meeting 2018

All current STOP Formula Grant Project Directors should be on the lookout for an email from PCCD within the next week containing the link to register for the STOP Grantee Meeting to be held May 8-9, 2018 at the Best Western Premier in Harrisburg.

Each county is encouraged to send up to three representatives from its STOP Collaborating Team to the meeting. The representatives must be from different disciplines (i.e. law enforcement, prosecution, victim services or other required members such as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, sheriff, or underserved populations representative. All three team members from each county will be reimbursed for overnight accommodations at the hotel, mileage and subsistence.

The meeting will feature nationally recognized speakers on forensic experiential interviewing and sustainable collaboration building. Additionally, a number of workshops on responses to violence against women crimes; improving services to underserved populations and team building will be available to attendees on a rotating basis.

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# HAVIN Presents: LT. Daniel Rincon: Training Institute On Strangulation Prevention

Strangulation is one of the most dangerous forms of physical violence that occurs in the context of intimate partner violence cases. An abuser’s attempt to strangle the victim can be a dramatic predictor of future lethality in intimate partner violence cases. Recognizing how serious a crime strangulation is for victims of intimate partner violence and child abuse, the PA legislature enacted the new crime of strangulation that took effect on December 26, 2016. This crime amends Title 18 of the crime code by adding Section 2718, the strangulation offense, which now allows prosecutors to charge defendants with the crime of strangulation. This training will address the basics of investigation, documentation, prosecution and advocacy of near‐fatal strangulation cases and explore an integrated approach to responding to near‐fatal strangulation cases.

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Belmont Complex

415 Butler Rd

Kittanning, PA 16201

Registration and Continental Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Training

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

*Pending 7 hours of CLEE are available for municipal police officers through MPOETC.*

For more information, please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Training%20Institute%20on%20Strangulation%20Prevention.pdf).

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# Save The Date: PCADV’s Progress Through Unity Conference

**When: October 24-26, 2018**

**Where: Eden Resort, Lancaster, PA**

**Request for Proposals / Conference Speakers**

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) seeks proposals for “Progress Through Unity,” our biennial statewide conference. This year, the theme of our conference focuses on collectively creating and sustaining healthy communities. Since celebrating PCADV’s 40th anniversary in 2016, we realize the need for progression and innovation in domestic violence advocacy and prevention work. Using the tracks of **Safe, Healthy, Inclusive**, and **Just**, we are in search of new and progressive workshops that address community conditions, norms and root factors in efforts to end and prevent domestic violence.

**Click** [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/93K3Z23?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=297b7bb2-8cc2-43c6-9624-b42cba252636) **submit your completed proposal.** For additional information, please contact [2018conference@pcadv.org](mailto:2018conference@pcadv.org).

**Deadline for Submission:** April 30, 2018

**More details** about the Progress Through Unity Conference, as well as registration details, will be available soon.

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# Community Crisis Response: Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness Conference

Registration is now open for the Community Crisis Response: Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness Conference presented by KCIT. The event is open to anyone with an interest in community crisis response!

May 2nd - 4th, 2018

Ramada Conference and Golf Hotel   
1450 S. Atherton Street  
State College, PA 16801  

**Topics to include:** Grief Trajectory, LGBTQ and Trauma, Vicarious Trauma, ACEs, Disaster Spiritual Care, Autism Spectrum Disorder and Crisis Intervention, Institutionalized Trauma, Body based Interventions, Lessons learned and teaching moments in a crisis.

**Keynotes to include:** Kristina Anderson, a survivor of the Virginia Tech shooting and Frank DeAngelis, principal of Columbine High School at the time of the shooting.

To learn more and to register for this event, please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=6nqn8gdab&oeidk=a07ee943wcp1b1cd611).

Sponsors and Exhibitors wanted—email [info@kcitpa.org](mailto:info@kcitpa.org) for more information.

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# The Third Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Forensic Nursing Conference

Please join us on **Friday, June 1, 2018** for The Third Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Forensic Nursing Conference hosted by Abington Hospital – Jefferson Health and Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA)

**Topics**

* How Trauma, Victimization and Addiction Are All Connected
* From Depression to Psychosis: Strategies for Caring for Patients with Mental Illness during a Forensic Examination
* Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault and the Investigation and Prosecution of Cases
* The Benefits of Vulnerability Risk Assessment Toward Prevention of Workplace Violence
* Beyond the Basics: Assisting Commercially Sexually Exploited Children and Trafficked Adults
* Integrative Healing

**Speakers**

* **Jen Storm**, Victim Advocate of the Commonwealth of PA
* **Dr. Julie Valentine**, Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University College of Nursing
* **Dr. Marc LeBeau**, Senior Forensic Scientist of the Scientific Analysis Section of the FBI Laboratory, Quantico, Virginia
* **Dr. Paul Clement**, Clinical Professor, Drexel University - College of Nursing and Health Professions
* **Alexis Kreiger**, Victim Specialist, Philadelphia Division of the FBI
* **Dr. Astra Czerny**, Licensed Professional Counselor

Abington Jefferson Health

1200 Old York Road

Abington, PA 19001

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Cost: $50.00 (includes breakfast and lunch)

*Nursing CEUs to be awarded for successful completion of the conference*

Please click [here](http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=426b1f47-8bc0-4a31-bef5-65ce6ccd42f7&preview=true&m=1102962934205&id=preview) to register.

\*\* We would like to thank Aria Jefferson Health and Verizon for their support of this conference \*\*

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# Summer Peacebuilding Institute

Just Outcomes is instructing at the Summer Peacebuilding Institute from June 8 – 10, 2018, at the Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia. You can strengthen your restorative justice program development, leadership, and facilitation skills through a deepened understanding and orientation toward the needs of crime victims and survivors. Learn about the intersection between trauma recovery, victim assistance and restorative justice. Develop new strategies for program implementation and service delivery. Just Outcomes hope you can join them in June! Please click [here](http://createsend.com/t/y-2DBEC060F961CF51) to learn more,

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# ****Scholarships Available For 2018 National Victim Service Conferences****

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for scholarships to attend eligible national victim service conferences.  This funding is made available through a grant awarded to PDAI by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for subsidizing the costs associated with attending these training conferences.  These costs may include registration fees, per diem (for food), and reasonable transportation and lodging expenses.  The scholarships are only available to victim service professionals to attend any national conference focused on victim service training.  To qualify, the applicant’s entire job focus must be on providing support, information, and assistance to victims.  Any eligible conference must be completed within the 2018 calendar year.  Only one person per agency can receive a scholarship and only after providing a sufficient justification of need.  Recipients are selected based upon the information provided in the application, the number of scholarships previously awarded, and remaining available funding. To view the Scholarship Application, please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/2018-pccd-scholarship-application1-2/).

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# New Program Highlights

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 Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov).

The Framework of Northwest Victim Services is understanding community health and how it can be strengthened. We focus on providing Direct Services to Victims of Crime in the Northwest Section of Philadelphia (5th, 14th, 35th, & 39th).  Northwest Victim Services understands the importance of being proactive by offering FREE community programs to help individuals of all ages and NOT just limiting our services to people who have been victimized:

**Coffee Klatch:** "Coffee Klatch" is a Domestic Violence (DV) support group that developed with the intention of providing a safe haven of open conversation about DV crimes committed against you or a loved one and looking at each person’s individual grief journey in a safe and supportive environment. We come together and share stories and information that survivors as well as victims experience such as isolation, fear, stressed relationships and other complications that follow criminal events towards you and your loved ones. This is an opportunity for individuals to meet other people that have shared a similar experience as well as help each other cope and recover from such events. These support groups Empower & Educate Survivors, Victims, & Victim Advocates.

**Senior’s 4 Safety:** This program is to inform Senior Citizens about victimization and to help support those who have been victimized. It offers safety tips, tools, and TECHNIQUES to minimize our seniors from becoming a victim. Our staff conducts workshops in Churches, Senior Homes, and at Community Events.

**Stand for Something Youth Program:** Is a school based project of Northwest Victim Services which presents 45-minute modules in the classrooms of Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. The subject of these learning modules is crime victim rights, safety strategies and bullying. Our goal is to interact with the youth to see what we can do to ensure they are safe. We want to hear from them to see how they can feel safe within their community!

If you would like for Northwest Victim to come to your location, please contact the Executive Melany P. Nelson at 267-808-0350 or email her at [mpn@northwestvictimservices.org](mailto:mpn@northwestvictimservices.org)

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov) by Wednesday, April 18, 2018.

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 Heather Hewitt at (717) 265-8730 or via email at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov).

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:** [@PaCrimmCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)