**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

May 22, 2019

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6)Compensation Related: Basic Compensation and much more!

Credits towards VOCA/RASA/VOJO training requirements are available for all sessions (unless indicated otherwise in the session description). To receive training credits: 1) you must be logged into the session and 2) the WebEx application must be on your computer for the entire duration of the session. As the OVS recognizes that emergencies may arise and you may not be able to attend the entire session, there is no prohibition against attending part of a session (although training credits will not be given in that instance).

* + [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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# Now Accepting Workshop Proposals for 2019 Pathways for Victim Services – Deadline May 31, 2019

Do you have a desire to teach others? Have you conducted a victim services-related research project, and are looking for a venue to share your results? Have you implemented a new program, and are wanting to share your success with others? We are seeking professionals who have not only developed worthwhile programs, but whom also have a successful track record in demonstrating those programs, to submit workshop proposals.

This year’s theme is “Stronger Together,” and we are seeking workshops proposals that facilitate cross-systems programs; community partnerships; and that are leveraging local and state government allied professionals to better address the needs of victims of crime.

Panel discussions with broad representation are strongly encouraged.

We are also seeking workshops whose primary aim is to put another tool in the victim advocate’s toolbox, and are requesting that workshop proposals include, when applicable, forms, assessment tools, templates for Excel documents, or other resources that facilitate either service delivery, or program analysis.

The following priority topics for the 2019 Pathways Conference will be given preference in the selection process. The priority areas are as followed:

* Human Trafficking
* Substance Abuse
* Working with Trauma
* Restorative Justice

The priority areas established by the Victim Services Advisory Committee will also be given preference. The priority areas are as followed:

* Emergency Shelter/Housing
* Telehealth Services
* Transportation
* Elderly Victims of Crime
* LGBTQ
* People of Color
* Victims with Disabilities
* Immigrants
* Limited English Proficiency
* Victims of Financial Crimes
* Children and the Homeless

Click [here](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/training/Pages/2019-Pathways-Workshop-Proposal.aspx) to access the workshop proposal form.

If you have any questions regarding the conference, or workshop proposal process, please feel free to contact Ross Pelusi, Criminal Justice Specialist at 717-265-8713 or by email rpelusi@pa.gov.

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# Pathfinder Awards Nominations

Nomination information for the Pathfinder Award is now available on the PCCD website. Please review all sections, and downloadable materials to understand the process. Please note that nominations cannot be submitted until May 27, 2019 at 8:00am. The email address to submit information can be found on the website.

Awards will be presented at the 2019 Pathways Conference on December 3, 2019 during the lunch part of the conference.

Click [here](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/training/Pages/2019-Pathfinder-Awards-Nomination.aspx) to learn more about the nomination process.

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# 2019 Pathways for Victim Services

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency’s Office of Victims’ Services is very excited about the upcoming Pathways Conference, and looks forward to seeing you there. The conference will be held at the Hershey Lodge on December 2nd – December 4th, 2019.

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# Office of Victim Services Program Manager

The Office of Victim Services (OVS) is pleased to announce that Brian Swoyer has been hired as the Victim Services Program Manager.  Mr. Swoyer will be overseeing the grant programs that include VOCA, RASA, VOJO, STOP, SASP and other grants administered within OVS.  Mr. Swoyer is coming from the juvenile justice system where he worked for over ten years at South Mountain Secure Treatment Unit, in Franklin County. While there he managed a unit of residents with mental health diagnoses that were adjudicated to the state for various crimes. During his 10 years, Mr. Swoyer started as a line staff, was then promoted to a counselor, and then to a counselor supervisor.  Prior to beginning his work in the juvenile justice system, Mr. Swoyer was a branch manager for Citizens Banks.  Mr. Swoyer enjoys spending time with his wife and friends and he has a 15-year-old step-son that is in track and cross country.  He enjoys going out to eat, golfing, skiing, and the outdoors.

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# Office of Victim Services Administrative Assistant

The Office of Victim Services (OVS) is pleased to announce that Jennifer Moore has been hired as the Administrative Assistant within OVS.  Ms. Moore has worked in OVS in the Victims Compensation Assistance Program for 18 years and brings a great deal of experience to this position.  Ms. Moore has replaced Heather Hewitt and will assume those duties.  Any information that you would have previously communicated with Ms. Hewitt should now be sent to Ms. Moore.  She can be reached at jemoore@pa.gov or by calling (717) 265-8705.

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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, 2019!!!

Recipients of 2018 VOJO (VJ) and/or 2018 JRI (JV) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2018 VJ Award Amount      $  xx.xx

2018 VJ Project Period        1/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

                        And/Or

2018 JV Award Amount       $  xx.xx

2018 JV Project Period         1/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

T**his is a reminder that *VOJO funds not expended or obligated from these funding sources by June 30, 2019 will lapse.***

Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2019 should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2019.

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 1/1/2019-6/30/2019.

**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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# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

Basic Compensation - May 22, 2019 from 9:00-11:00am

Basic Compensation on June 4th from 10:00am-12:00pm

Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic on June 4th from 1:00pm-2:00pm

Loss of Support Clinic on June 10th from 9:30am-10:30am

Transportation Expenses Clinic on June 10th from 11:00am-12:00pm

Loss of Earnings Clinic on June 19th from 9:30am-10:30am

Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic on June 19th from 11:00am-12:00pm

Counseling Expenses Clinic on June 27th from 9:30am-10:30am

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic on June 27th from 11:00am-12:00pm

Basic Compensation on July 1st from 10:00am-12:00pm

Myths of Compensation on July 1st from 1:00pm-2:00pm

"Wow, That's Covered by Compensation" on July 11th from 9:30am-10:30am

Relocation Expenses Clinic on July 11th from 11:00am-12:00pm

Restitution Basics on July 23rd from 10:00am-11:00am

Funeral and Burial Expenses Clinic on July 23rd from 11:30am-12:30pm

Click [here](https://pccd.webex.com/pccd/onstage/g.php?PRID=9c0a5f356b9ee12dc7de27fe147bb352) to register.

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, with the exception of Basic Compensation, which counts towards 2 training hours, and DAVE training, which counts towards 2.5 training hours.

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# SAVE THE DATE! Victim/Witness Services Foundational Academy

Philadelphia – July 8-10, 2019

Doubletree by Hilton - Center City Philadelphia
237 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215.893.1600

Click [here](http://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500159&RegType=ATT) to register.

Registration for this conference is restricted to victim advocates currently employed in Pennsylvania and funded through VOCA, RASA and/or VOJO funding and providing services to all forms of crime victims. Priority will be given to those for whom attendance is mandatory. The PDAI reserves the right to decline registrants who do not meet the criteria.

Attendance is limited to 75 participants.  Registrations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Tentative dates are as follows:

* Harrisburg, October 9th – 11th

**Please note the following changes for the 2019 Foundational Academies:** Because these academies are scheduled to be more convenient to attendees by cutting down the traveling distance, no overnight accommodations will be provided for the Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg academies. A continental breakfast and two break snacks will be provided.

Registration will open approximately 10 weeks prior to the week of the Academy. Priority will be given to those advocates for whom Foundational Academy training is mandatory.

For more information, please contact Amelia Smulktis, Restitution & Victim/Witness Training Consultant, at AJS@restitutionconsulting.com, or 717.333.2319.

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# Keystone Crisis Intervention Team: Trauma-Informed Death Notification Trainings

Death Notification can be part of anyone's job. It is not a fun task, but one that is so important to the survivors' healing. In this training, you will learn best practices in Death Notification as well as possible reactions by survivors and how to help.

August 16, 2019

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Giant Community Center

3301 Trindle Road

Camp Hill, PA 17011

Please click [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fevents.constantcontact.com%2Fregister%2Fevent%3Fllr%3D6nqn8gdab%26oeidk%3Da07efmpfqwf06ad9f29&data=02%7C01%7Csbrendling%40pa.gov%7C20bc565a4510485e305e08d6d3caab06%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C1%7C636929264745917914&sdata=Gm2CFHCjdtEkLGzyuaUSsWFhoCW8Cqct0GovtOamm1E%3D&reserved=0) to register. Training is provided free of cost.

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# Save the Date: VOCA Grantee Training

A free VOCA attorney CLE will be offered by P.L.A.N., the state administrator for Legal Aid programs. The program will be held on June 12 & 13, 2019, at the Harrisburg Hilton. The program is free and open to all VOCA recipients who assist in providing legal services to victims of crime. Deadline for overnight accommodations is Monday, June 3rd at 4:00 p.m.  Hotel rooms cannot be guaranteed after that date.  Overall registration deadline is Friday, June 7th at 4:00 p.m.  This training will offer 12 Continuing Education Credits for both full days of training. For more information or to register, click [here.](https://palegalaid.net/events/2019-pa-legal-aid-network-voca-grantee-training)

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# PDAI Victim Services Trainings

Bridges Out of Poverty

Date: September 23, 2019

Time: 1 PM - 4 PM

Location: Linglestown Road, Harrisburg Giant Community Room

This is just a reminder that in addition to being the Restitution Consultant, Amelia Smulktis is the new Victim/Witness Training Consultant effective November 2018. To receive her quarterly *Restitution & Victim/Witness Training Newsletter* which includes important updates regarding Foundational Academy, Topical Trainings, and restitution, or to contact her with any other questions, please email her at AJS@restitutionconsulting.com. Jennifer Feicht remains as the SAVIN Consultant and can be emailed at jennifer@jlfconsulting.net.

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# Working with Sexual Assault Victims Webinar

Tuesday, May 28th, 2019

This one-hour webinar is the second in a two-part series on understanding sexual violence and how to **respond appropriately to survivors**. This webinar will focus on best practices for sexual assault intervention and response, including strategies to improve collaboration with other responders in order to enhance a coordinated community response to sexual assault. Additionally, participants will acquire **trauma-informed skills** specific to victim interviews in order to mitigate trauma and elicit greater detail about their experience.

Click [here](https://justiceclearinghouse.com/webinar/working-with-sexual-assault-victims-strategies-for-justice-professionals/) to register for this training.

This training has been approved for one hour of PCCD Annual Training Hours.

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# Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Forensic Nursing Conference

This conference will be held on Friday, May 31, 2019 from 8:00am-5:30pm at Abington Jefferson Health at 1200 Old York Road, Abington PA.

**Topics and Speakers**

**Strangulation Cases and Making Good Use of Expert Testimony:** [**William Smock, MD**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/William%20Smock.docx)will provide an overview of the dynamics of strangulation including a discussion on subtle signs and symptoms, assessing for internal injuries, radiology studies, documentation, evidence collection and considerations for court citing current case law. Expert testimony, emerging issues, typical and emerging defenses, and dealing with defense experts will be discussed.

**Victimology:** [**Dr. Theresa Faye-Hillier**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Theresa%20Fay%20Hillier%20Bio.docx)will discuss victimization experiences from the perspective of the crime victim, the offender, families, and the healthcare community. She will also focus on understanding etiologic and motivation issues, as well as response patterns to victimization and perpetration dynamics from a healthcare provider perspective.

**Intimate Partner Violence's (IPV) Overlooked Damage: Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI):** [**Glynnis Zieman**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Glynnis%20Zieman.docx)**, MD (Neurologist) and** [**Ashley Bridwell, LMSW**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Ashley%20Bridwell%20short%20bio%208.27.18.docx)will talk about the often overlooked and underreported issues surrounding TBI in survivors of IPV. The presenters will also share the multidisciplinary approach used to assist survivors to manage life with a brain injury.

**Prosecuting Difficult Cases: Sexual Assault of Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ID):** [**Robert Laurino**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/BOB%27S%20BIO-ADVOCACY%202018.doc)**, Essex County New Jersey Prosecutor** will look at the challenges inherent in investigating and prosecuting cases of sexual assault committed against individuals with ID. He will share best practices developed over 25 years of prosecuting such cases. At the close of the presentation, **Steve Doerner**, Director of the Bucks County Children's Advocacy Center, will share the Special Victim's Investigation (SVI) program which uses a multidisciplinary, client-centered approach to case investigation and prosecution.

**A Philadelphia Physician’s Perspective on Why Advocating Against Gun Violence is Part of the Job:** [**Daniel Taylor, D.O.**](file:///H%3A/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Bioscetch%20Dan%20Taylor%202016.docx)**,** a pediatrician at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children will discuss his experiences caring for child victims of gun violence and share thoughts on healthcare practitioners being part of the discussions on this serious public health issue.

**Options for Breakout Sessions:**

**Risks and Resilience: Youth with Problematic and Illegal Sexualized Behavior:**[**Kelly Hagenbaugh, MSW, LSW**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Kelly%20Hagenbaugh%20is%20a%20licensed%20Social%20Worker%20who%20received%20her%20Master.docx) **and** [**Jaime Osborn, MS**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Jamie%20Osborn.docx), NOVA Counselors will discuss this research based treatment program which targets a population of youth, ages 7-14, who previously were treated as offenders, lacked accessible services for support and would otherwise have gone unserved.

**Healing Through the Alphabet: Providing Trauma – Informed Care for LGBTQ+ Sexual Assault Survivors** [**Tiffany Lanza**, **LCSW, M.Ed**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Bio%20Tiffany%20Lanza.docx)**. and** [**Dr. Autumn Dae Miller**](file://192.168.1.11/Users/Debbie/Regional%20SANE%20Conferences/2019/Autumn%20Day%20Miller.docx)stated that “Understanding how to support marginalized communities is vital for professional success and to decrease re-traumatization. This training will focus on an understanding of the LGBTQ+ community, their lived experiences around trauma, and strategies for best practices during a SANE exam.

CEUs pending for Registered Nurses.

Cost: $60.00 (includes breakfast and lunch)

Click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eg4er92f1eafef3c&llr=6nqn8gdab) to register.

Questions: Contact Debbie Nugent at debbie@novabucks.org or 215-343-6543 ext. 105

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# OVC Funding Opportunities

Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/Solicitation.aspx?utm_source=newsfromovc&utm_medium=email&utm_content=ovc_solicitation_rollup_5.30.2018&utm_campaign=solicitation_2018) to view all opportunities.

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# 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 Jennifer Moore at jemoore@pa.gov.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, June 5, 2019. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Jennifer Moore at jemoore@pa.gov by Wednesday, May 29, 2019.

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 Jennifer Moore at (717) 265-8705 or via email at jemoore@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:** [@PaCrimeCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)m.