**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

August 16, 2018

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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, Advanced-Counseling, Transportation Expenses, Restitution and much more! Truly

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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# New Victim Service Program Standards

The Services and Standards Subcommittee of the Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) has been tasked with developing standards to cover newly identified services and activities under VOCA.  A new standard for [Forensic Interviews for Vulnerable Adults](https://pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Forensic%20Interviews%20for%20Vulnerable%20Adults.pdf) was adopted by VSAC at the August 2018 meeting, and the standard for [Forensic Interviews of Children](https://pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Forensic%20Interviews%20of%20Children.pdf) was also amended. These standards have been added to the electronic version of PCCD’s Consolidated Victim Service Program Standards located on PCCD’s website.  [View the standards here (PDF)](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Consolidated%20Victim%20Service%20Program%20Standards%206.4.2018.pdf).

PCCD will continue to update programs in the field as new standards are developed and approved by VSAC.

For questions, you may contact Valerie McMahon at vmcmahon@pa.gov or 717-265-8736.

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# NOW OPEN: Victims Of Crime Act (VOCA) Funding Opportunities

**Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funding 2019-2021:**

**The Office of Victims’ Services has released two VOCA Funding Announcements totaling $69M.  These announcements are for the funding period of April 1, 2019 - September 30, 2021. Programs have between six to eight weeks to complete their applications.**

The **Non-Competitive** VOCA funding announcement totaling $23M is available as an allocation to existing VOCA grantees to increase organizational capacity and infrastructure. Each agency's allocation will be based on that agency's proportionate share of the total amount of VOCA funds currently awarded.  This announcement is open to all current VOCA recipients from the following three funding solicitations: 2016-2019 VOCA Non-Competitive, 2016-2019 VOCA Competitive #1, and 2018-2020 VOCA Competitive #2.

**Please Note: this announcement does not serve as continued funding for the 2016-2019 VOCA Non-Competitive Funding scheduled to end June 30, 2019.  Funding for current non-competitive VOCA recipients set to end on June 30, 2019 will be discussed at the Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) scheduled for August 2018.  Once approved by VSAC, OVS will notify current recipients and provide programs with next steps.**

The **Competitive** VOCA Funding Announcement totaling $46M is available to both new and existing programs on a strictly competitive basis. These funds are not subject to individual county allocations, but will be apportioned with 75% ($34.5M) being made available to urban counties and 25% ($11.5M) to rural counties, as designated by the U.S. Census Bureau.  VSAC has identified twelve priority area that will receive a scoring preference. Those priority preferences include:

1. Emergency Shelter & Housing
2. Access to Telehealth Services
3. Transportation
4. Elderly
5. LGBTQ
6. People of Color
7. Victims with Disabilities
8. Immigrants
9. Victims with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
10. Victims of Financial Crimes
11. Children
12. Homeless Victims

Addressing the unmet needs of your community and establishing or showing established community partnerships are essential elements of a successful competitive application.  If you intend to apply, OVS recommends you begin working on your application as soon as possible.

**NOTE: This $69 million in VOCA funding should not be considered sustainable past the end of grant period, September 30, 2021.  VOCA applicants under these two July 2018 funding opportunities should strongly consider projects that will not need sustained VOCA funding long-term, in the event the federal VOCA funding allocation to Pennsylvania is reduced in the out-years.**

For all upcoming grant opportunities at PCCD (including RASA/VOJO and VOCA) you may also [Sign-Up to Subscribe for Grant Opportunity Emails](https://www.pccdegrants.pa.gov/Egrants/Public/Subscribe.aspx).  Thank you.

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# RASA/VOJO 2019-2020 Funding Announcement Is Due To Be Released August 20th!

In order for victim service programs to apply for 2019-2020 RASA/VOJO funding, each county’s DA and CJPO will complete RASA and VOJO certification forms which designate programs and funding amounts. **Completed RASA and VOJO certification forms must be provided to both PCCD and recommended RASA and VOJO programs by August 24, 2018.**The timely completion of this form is required to avoid any delays in the program application process and grant awards.

The Rights and Services Act/Victims of Juvenile Offenders (RASA/VOJO) 2019-2020 Funding Announcement is anticipated for release on Monday, August 20, 2018. This announcement is for the funding period of January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2020.  RASA/VOJO programs will need to submit their applications by Friday, September 28, 2018.

RASA/VOJO funds support procedural services mandated by the PA Crime Victims Act, PA Juvenile Act and/or the PA Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure.  Please note that RASA/VOJO program recommendations are made by each county’s District Attorney (DA) in consultation with the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer (CJPO).

When the RASA/VOJO announcement is formally released, notice will be provided in several ways, including the OVS Newsletter, PCCD’s website, emails to current project contacts, etc.  For all upcoming grant opportunities at PCCD (including RASA/VOJO and VOCA) you may also [Sign-Up to Subscribe for Grant Opportunity Emails](https://www.pccdegrants.pa.gov/Egrants/Public/Subscribe.aspx).  Thank you.

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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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# Center for Victim Research Funding Opportunity

The Center for Victim Research (CVR) is pleased to announce an exciting funding opportunity to support partnerships between Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance and/or compensation administrators and SACs. This funding can be used to collect and analyze victim-and victim-services related data in states or conduct other victim-related research or evaluation projects. The aim of these partnerships is to enhance the capacity of VOCA administrators and the local providers they fund to use data and empirical evidence to improve services to crime victims. This is the second round of funding for these partnership projects (descriptions of previous projects available [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0014qHGgtXNmu3M-klapPdeY4Qa3g4OPYoN_99LKwFjSyMGGtu4QkNjAbXJeirxeUAp2xY0ah1lhkuCsFZsbRBYBUgDfUruiT4KQQAIQHud0N2gb4ry8BVBHzTvR5mxGAbjs8J63j3rgFMWMd7y-QOvN2G4GPPX79Z3LbsxBRDd_aZmjFfdN3ZjrlyZP66ZnODZPfPlTiVAmWkOxr79hwu7Xw==&c=bsCP-ds9VSf2Ge7aZkZ06aOjcvynrS5fqQk3alvetoRjq1H04yF9aA==&ch=hP7YtPd0lpyYStxezZ8OBGoGNNW48OI3bEtS3QgtQEDa_F55PpVNgA==)) and provides up to $15,000 for each partnership project.

Please click [here](https://victimresearch.org/documents/voca-sac-collaboration-rfp-2018.pdf) to review the Request for Proposals.

Please click [here](https://secure.icohere.com/registration/register.cfm?reg=5020&evt=VOCA-SAC2018&t=1534186994971) to register for the Overview Webinar.

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# New Toolkit On Coerced Debt Available

The [Center for Survivor Agency and Justice (CSAJ)](https://csaj.org/mission/) is a national expert in advocacy that reflects the complex needs of domestic violence survivors who are living in poverty.  Coerced debt is a challenge for many survivors who are working towards economic stability for themselves after leaving an abusive situation.  The CSAJ has released a [Coerced Debt Training Toolkit](https://csaj.org/consumertoolkit-Debt?utm_source=Email+group+list&utm_campaign=2e05634f8f-Credit_Factsheet11_23_2015_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d147e487f9-2e05634f8f-111971637) designed to provide advocates and attorneys with survivor-centered strategies and legal remedies to address coerced debt facing survivors.

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# Peaceful Unity: A Dream That Lives On

The Heather Heyer Foundation was created to honor Heather Heyer, a young civil rights activist, who dedicated her life to promoting equal rights for all people. The Foundation has established a scholarship program to provide financial assistance to individuals passionate about positive social change.

Scholarships will be awarded to those seeking a degree or certification in, but not limited to, law, paralegal studies, social work, social justice, and education, and who intend to promote peaceful social change for unity using those skills in their profession.

Please click [here](https://www.heatherheyerfoundation.com/) to learn more

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# Montgomery County Launches Anonymous Crime Tips App

Montgomery County has become the first county in Pennsylvania to launch an anonymous crime tips app for members of the public. The new app, "STOPit," is simple to use. Simply press "report," type in your tip, add a photo or video if necessary, and hit "send." Officials hope the new app empowers citizens to help keep their neighborhoods safe. Please click [here](https://patch.com/pennsylvania/norristown/montgomery-county-launches-anonymous-crime-tips-app) to learn more.

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# Opinion: The Great God Of Depression

Nearly 30 years ago, the author William Styron outed himself in these pages as mentally ill. “My days were pervaded by a gray drizzle of unrelenting horror,” he wrote in a [New York Times Op-Ed](https://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/oped40/lit-styron.pdf) article, describing the deep depression that had landed him in the psych ward. He compared the agony of mental illness to that of a heart attack. Pain is pain, whether it’s in the mind or the body. So why, he asked, were depressed people treated as pariahs?

A confession of mental illness might not seem like a big deal now, but it was back then. In the 1980s, “if you were depressed, it was a terrible dark secret that you hid from the world,” according to Andrew Solomon, a historian of mental illness and author of “The Noonday Demon.” “People with depression were seen as pathetic and even dangerous. You didn’t let them near your kids.” Please click [here](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/03/opinion/sunday/depression-william-styron.html) to read more.

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# Police Use ‘LAP’ Screenings To Combat Domestic Violence

There are headlines after headlines about a husband and wife dead in a murder-suicide, a man killing his girlfriend, or a break-up that leads up to a killing. Chester County law enforcement has seen too many cases where domestic violence accelerates into murder. Jamica Woods was shot and killed by her longtime boyfriend Gregory Twyman when she threw him out of the house. Kimberly Hvizda was stabbed to death by her husband James Hvizda in the midst of the couple splitting up. Jacinda Miller was killed by her estranged boyfriend Dennis Cassel in the parking lot of a YMCA, then Cassel killed himself. In order to prevent such incidents, Chester County law enforcement works together with the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County to implement the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), an interview tool that helps police predict which domestic violence cases are most likely to lead to cases of extreme violence in the future. Please click [here](http://www.dailylocal.com/article/DL/20180811/NEWS/180819968) to read more.

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# 8 Children Are Accidentally Shot Every Day With Unsecured Firearms In The Home

Somewhere in the U.S. today, a child will find a loaded gun in a home. They won’t have to look hard. It will be unlocked and stored in an easily accessible place. The child will pick up the firearm, and soon enough, it will go off exactly like it’s supposed to. The bullet will strike a friend, or a sibling, or the child who found the gun in the first place. Someone will be injured or killed. If it’s an average day in America, this scene will play out seven more times somewhere. It will repeat itself tomorrow. Please click [here](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/end-family-fire-guns-shooting-brady_us_5b68b9e8e4b0b15abaa6008b) to read more.

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# Immigrant Survivors Of Domestic/Sexual Violence In Your Courtroom

The National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence is hosting a 90-minute webinar on **August 27 at 3:00 p.m.** on Immigrant Survivors of Domestic/Sexual Violence in Your Courtroom: Family Court and Civil Protection Order Cases.  This webinar is for judicial officials and will provide an overview of how immigration issues related to domestic violence intersect with civil proceedings.  At the end of this webinar, participants will be better able to:

* Explain the dynamics of immigration-related abuse
* Examine how immigration issues may impact judicial proceedings related to DV/SA, including the U visa certification process
* Assess how criminal and civil findings intersect with an immigration matter

Presenters include the Honorable Susan M. Breall, Superior Court judge for the City and County of San Francisco and Cecelia Friedman Levin, Senior Policy Counsel, ASISTA Immigration Assistance.

Please click [here](https://ta2ta.org/webinars/registration/immigrants-survivors-of-domestic-sexual-violence2.html) to register.

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# Law Enforcement Scholarships Available Through End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI)

EVAWI is pleased to announce the availability of up to 10 scholarships for law enforcement officers to their 2019 International Conference on Sexual Assault, Intimate Partner Violence and Increasing Access to be held in San Diego, California on April 22-24th.  For eligibility and application details, click [here](https://www.evawintl.org/conferencedetail.aspx?confid=30).  **Deadline for application is November 5, 2018**.

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# October Foundational Academy Registration Is Now Open!

Foundational Academy Training for New Victim Advocates

October 17-19, 2018

Hyatt Place State College

219 W. Beaver Ave.

State College, PA 16801

**Who Should Attend?**

This training is designed to provide a solid foundation for all new staff who provide services to victims at PCCD funded Victim Service Programs.  **New advocates are required to attend/complete the Foundational Academy Training (classroom and online component)** if they:

* Are providing the Prosecutor’s or Chief Juvenile Probation Officer’s responsibilities/victim services under the Crime Victims Act – all RASA and VOJO funded programs;
* Are providing victim services at VOCA funded programs not affiliated with State Coalitions;
* Are providing victim services at VOCA funded programs who serve victims of “Other” Crimes.

**Course Information:**  There are important skills that all Victim Advocates need to have in order to provide the best services possible to those victims and survivors you work with every day.  Some of the topics that will be covered in this training are:  Your Role as a Victim Advocate, PCCD Program Standards, Confidentiality, Ethics, the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP), Diversity and Special Populations, the Criminal Justice System, and more.

Don’t miss this great opportunity!

Please click [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ciclt.net%2Fsn%2Fevents%2Fe_signup.aspx%3FClientCode%3Dpdaa%26E_ID%3D500103%26RegType%3DATT&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C6cdd7e5d042f4dcd510a08d5f6470190%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636685707195996783&sdata=fgf7zG0Aco4H28%2FRc5l%2FISrHBfdTTNxcIBHlWwuyawo%3D&reserved=0) to register.

If you have any questions regarding the Foundational Academy, please contact Jennifer L. Feicht, Victim/Witness TTA Consultant at jfeicht@embarqmail.com or (724) 679-7280.

If you have any training questions in general, please contact Maria Katulis (PCCD) at mkatulis@pa.gov or (717) 265-8741.

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

The following training will be held on August 21, 2018

 Funeral & Burial 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=98298969575141238) to register.

 Loss of Earnings 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=98299024843485060) to register.

The following trainings will be held on September 5, 2018

* ”Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=102554032036428475) 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=102554122645977992) to register.

The following trainings will be held on September 19, 2018

* Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=98384426901187954) to register.
* Relocation Expenses Clinic - 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?siteurl=copa&formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&confId=102554206109481869) to register.
* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 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=102554268913941400) to register.

The following trainings will be held on September 27, 2018

* Counseling 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=102553985649523497) 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=102554362347305885) to register.

The following training will be held on October 10, 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=102554430292933446) to register.
* Myths of Compensation - 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=102554502145555274) to register.

The following trainings will be held on October 16, 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=102554779584084922) to register.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic - 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=102554600710650797) to register.

The following training will be held on October 25, 2018

* Funeral & Burial 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=102554662502185908) to register.
* Loss of Earnings 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=102554735146482614) to register.

DAVE WebEx trainings

* *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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# Regional SORNA Trainings: The Office Of Victim Advocate (OVA) Is Coming To A Town Near You!

3 chances to attend a regional training this year, covering the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), the Address Confidentiality Program, and an overview of all services and programs offered by OVA.

This free training is for all victim service providers, members of law enforcement, district attorneys, and therapists.

**Pittsburgh: October 4, 2018**
Center for Victims
3433 E. Carson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203
*register by Sept 20*

**Harrisburg: October 30, 2018**
Riverfront Office Center
1101 S. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17104
*register by Oct 16*

**Philadelphia: November 7, 2018**

District Attorney’s Office
3 S. Penn Square, Philadelphia, PA 19107
*register by Oct 24*

[Registration information and a complete agenda are provided here](https://www.ova.pa.gov/Programs/Opportunities/Training/Pages/default.aspx).

*Follow the* [*Office of Victim Advocate on Facebook*](https://www.facebook.com/ThePAOfficeoftheVictimAdvocate/?ref=settings) *for ongoing updates!*

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# PDAA Crossing Bridges Training – Postponed

*Please note: This training is being postponed until late September. Please stay tuned for further details.*

Most of us have heard about or have read various yet sometimes confusing descriptions of “restorative practices”. This is your opportunity to eliminate the confusion between the models, such as: restorative group conferencing, family group decision making, family group conferencing, circles, victim impact panels, victim impact statements or victim-offender conferencing/mediation.  This training session will provide each participant with an overview of restorative practices and discern the strengths and differences of the various restorative practice models. The participants will learn what these practices look like and better understand how these practices reflect the intent of the juvenile justice goal for holding juvenile offenders’ accountability and increasing victim satisfaction.

Camp Hill Giant Community Center

3301 Trindle Road

Camp Hill, PA 17011

This 1-day training will:

* Introduce various restorative practices;
* Provide an understanding of the best practices of restorative justice;
* Clearly delineate the definitions, differences and similarities of restorative practices, and
* Provide the opportunity to experience several restorative practices step by step through role play that will outline a preliminary scheme for program replication for those who are interested.

*\*This training qualifies for 6 training hours through PCCD*

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# New Restitution Training Available!

Here is your chance to learn new techniques, important restitution updates, solutions to common issues, case law, and to collaborate with a restitution consultant with 15 years’ experience and with victim advocates from other counties.

August 23, 2018 / 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Camp Hill Giant Community Center

3301 Trindle Road

Camp Hill, PA 17011

Cost: $25.00

You should bring:

* *Real* issues that often arise within your work process.
* Any information that you feel would be beneficial to victim advocates in other counties.
* Any and all of your questions.

While including a restitution overview and other general restitution information, this training will also focus on day-to-day work, specific issues, and the minutia of assessing restitution on cases. Come willing to both collaborate with others and be open to what others have to share with you*.*

*Please email the trainer at* *AJS@RestitutionConsulting.com* *with any topics you would like to request be included.*

Please click [here](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Restitution%20Training%20Info%20Agenda.pdf) to register.

***\*This training qualifies for 6 training hours through PCCD.***

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# Center For Victim Research: CVR Pre-Institute Training

Center for Victim Research is very pleased to announce its first in-person training for researchers and practitioners: the CVR Pre-Institute Training on September 4, 2018, occurring the day before the National Center for Victims of Crime’s annual National Training Institute! This training will be an excellent opportunity for members of the field to come together and bridge the gap between researchers and practitioners in sessions heavily focused on research principles and how collaborative work can benefit the victims we serve.

September 4, 2018

12:15 – 5:15 p.m.

Caribe Royale Orlando

Orlando, Florida

To register for this no-cost opportunity, please email **researchliaison@victimresearch.org** and reference the CVR Pre-institute Training. This intimate event has only 50 seats available, so don’t wait to register!

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# PDAI Victim Services Trainings

**Bridge Out of Poverty**

September 19, 2018 / November 7, 2018

AM and PM sessions

Philadelphia area, location to be determined

Over 1.5 million Pennsylvanians live in poverty. If you serve individuals and families that live in poverty, this training will help you gain a deeper understanding of general of generational and societal elements that contribute to the life and impact of poverty. Participants will engage in a variety of scenario-based exercises to gain insight into what it is like to live in poverty. Additionally, this training will provide strategies to increase outcomes for those experiencing the challenges of poverty.

This training will:

o Define poverty;

o Identify and describe various factors that contribute to poverty;

o Identify the “hidden rules” of poverty;

o Develop strategies for building bridges out of poverty.

**Victim Services Foundational Academy**

October 17-19, 2018

The Hyatt Hotel, State College, PA

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# Keystone Crisis Intervention Team: Death Notification Training

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.

September 24, 3018

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Bucks County Public Safety Training Center

1760 S. Easton Road

Doylestown, PA 18901

Who? First Responders, Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Victim Services, Spiritual Care Providers, Volunteers and anyone who may have to deliver a death notification

Please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07efeam2da42a5e3c4&llr=6nqn8gdab) to register. Training is provided free of cost.

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# Save The Date: Eighth Annual Domestic Violence Symposium

This free, half-day symposium also will include a panel discussion with experts and advocates who will examine these issues from a variety of experiences and expertise.

October 2, 2018

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Cabrini University, Grace Hall

610 King of Prussia Road

Radnor, PA 19087-3698

Please click [here](https://www.cabrini.edu/about/departments/academic-departments/school-of-education/center-for-children-of-trauma-and-domestic-violence-education/news-and-events) to learn more and to register.

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# BWJP: Training Opportunities

Know More, Do More: Identifying and Responding to Stalking

August 16, 2018 / 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Victims of stalking often report feeling discounted by the systems designed to assist them. Despite the prevalence of stalking—a crime affecting some 7.5 million people at some time in their lives—allied professionals responsible for interacting with victims of crime are often hampered by lack of training and resources to address the crime of stalking in a comprehensive manner. This webinar will address common tactics used by perpetrators, identify stalking-specific risk assessment tools to better determine the level of threat to victims, and discuss effective safety planning strategies. By the end of this webinar, participants will be better able to: Recognize common tactics used by stalkers; Conduct stalking-specific risk assessments; and, identify key safety-planning strategies to address these tactics.

Please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-identifying-responding-stalking.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=2c0a4febde-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_30_04_16_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-2c0a4febde-132881353) to register.

Victim Safety and Offender Accountability: The Intimate Partner Violence Interventions

August 28, 2018 / 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Intimate partner violence is often thought of as fundamentally different from other types of violence, but a considerable body of evidence shows that the gravest IPV with respect to the most vulnerable victims tends to be driven by “chronic” offenders who commit a wide variety of crimes at relatively high rates. Research also demonstrates that IPV offenders who do not fit this profile can be deterred by relatively low-level sanctions. The Intimate Partner Violence Intervention (IPVI) aims to create meaningful deterrence for the most chronic and dangerous offenders, while promoting safety for victims. First piloted in High Point, NC, this offender-focused approach has shown promising results in reducing IPV homicides and serious violence as well as repeat offending. This webinar will focus on the strategy’s evidence-based approach to reducing serious IPV through strategic law enforcement, community-based informal social control, and victim-centered advocacy and social service provision as well as key operational elements for successful implementation.

Please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-victim-safety-offender-accountability-ipv-interventions.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=2c0a4febde-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_07_30_04_16_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-2c0a4febde-132881353) to register.

Veterans and Domestic Violence: Improving Safety, Accountability, and Intervention

October 15-16, 2018 / Jacksonville, FL

BWJP will present a free two-day training on **military and veteran-related domestic violence and best practices for screening, assessment, and intervention.** This training is tailored to those individuals who work in and with criminal courts that have military and veteran defendants and, particularly, **Veterans Treatment Court staff, domestic violence court staff, and community-based victim advocates.**

Topics addressed during this training will include Screening; Risk & Risk Assessment; Contextual Analysis; Intersection of Co-occurring Conditions & Domestic Violence; Victims and Victim Advocates; Pretrial and Probation Supervision; Firearms and Domestic Violence-related Prohibitions; Offender Intervention Programs; and Veterans Health Administration Services.

Please click [here](http://www.bwjp.org/training/veterans-and-domestic-violence.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=7fe39116f3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_04_18_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9-7fe39116f3-132881353) to learn more and to request to attend. Requests to attend this training will be honored in the order they are received.

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

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

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

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.

For additional information, please click [here](http://2018conference.pcadv.org/).

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# New Program Highlights

The Immigrant Survivors Project (ISP), a project of the Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center (PIRC), has been providing free immigration legal services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking throughout South-Central Pennsylvania since 2009.  The project employs a unique model of service delivery that involves working in close partnership with domestic and sexual violence victim service agencies to ensure survivors have access to comprehensive legal and victim services provided in their own community.  The ISP was recently awarded VOCA funding to expand services throughout the Commonwealth and we look forward to building strong partnerships with agencies across the state and to helping more survivors secure legal immigration status.  In addition to providing direct legal services, the ISP hopes to build capacity among domestic violence and sexual assault victim service agencies by providing training and technical assistance, in addition to funding for translation and interpretation services that agencies can utilize to serve limited English proficient survivors.  If you are interested in learning more about the Immigrant Survivors Project and how we can work together to serve immigrant survivors in your area, please contact the project's State Liaison, Sarah Martin-Torres, at smartin-torres@pirclaw.org or 717-600-8099, ext. 209.

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.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, August 29, 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 by Wednesday, August 22, 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.

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)