

**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

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*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

September 21, 2022

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# Suicide Prevention Toolkit

[The Suicide Prevention Toolkit](https://www.oscarkilo.org.uk/resources/toolkits-and-campaigns/suicide-postvention-toolkit) **published by the National Police Wellbeing Service (NPWS) was launched in 2019 to provide support and guidance for police forces across England and Wales to improve and build organizational well-being.  This Toolkit aims to help senior leadership in police forces to support staff after the loss of a colleague to suicide. It may also be adapted to support staff who lose a family member or close friend outside the force to suicide.**

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# American Foundation For Suicide Prevention

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) recognizes the month of September as National Suicide Prevention Month: a moment in time in which we rally the public to create awareness of this leading cause of death, and inspire more and more people to learn how they can play a role in their communities in helping to save lives. AFSP takes advantage of the full month to offer understanding and guidance for the public through special events, personal stories and perspectives, shareable social graphics and other materials designed to help people know what they can do if they or someone they know is struggling, and how to have authentic, caring conversations about suicide and mental health.

Please click [here](https://nspw.afsp.org/) to access.

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# Police Chiefs Cite Shocking Data On Urban Violent Crime Rise

A survey by the [Major Cities Chiefs Association](https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2022-and-2021-Midyear.pdf) showed that while homicide and rape totals are down in urban areas of the U.S. compared to the same point last year, violent crime, in general, has increased by 4.4 percent, and the rate of violent offenses remains much higher than before the pandemic.

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/police-chiefs-cite-shocking-data-on-urban-violent-crime-rise) to read.

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# Credit Card Firms Will Track Gun Sales To Help Stop Mass Shooters

Visa Inc. plans to start separately categorizing sales at gun shops, a win for gun control advocates who say it will track suspicious surges of gun sales that could foretell a mass shooting.

Please click [here](https://apnews.com/article/gun-violence-shootings-new-york-city-politics-4aae50c67e40f9683f604a8683acc391) to read.

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# Survey of America’s School Leaders And High School Students

From the [National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)](https://www.nassp.org/), this nationally representative survey explores the opinions of principals, assistant principals, and high school students on the challenges of leading and learning at school as well as their thoughts on mental health, school safety, and how to better meet the needs of all learners.

Please click [here](https://survey.nassp.org/2022/#intro) to read.

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# Rape Victims Can Face Huge Hospital Bills If They Seek Help

A new study found uninsured survivors of sexual violence were charged an average of $3,673 for visiting the emergency room.

Please click [here](https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2022/9/14/23350880/hospitals-bills-rape-victims-vawa-roe-abortion) to read.

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# Gun Violence Epidemic Challenges Local Anticrime Efforts

Gun violence is especially lethal for young people. 2020 became the first year in which gun violence was the leading cause of death for children and teens.

Please click [here](https://www.chalkbeat.org/2022/9/13/23349462/students-shootings-community-gun-violence-school-security) to read.

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# Gun Deaths Continue To Surge

Gun deaths continued to surge across the U.S. according to provisional data from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.

Please click [here](https://www.thetrace.org/2022/09/gun-deaths-cdc-2021-record/) to read.

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# National Day Of Remembrance For Murder Victims

The National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims is September 25. OVC TTAC offers several resources on serving homicide victims/co-survivors

Please click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/news/index.cfm?nm=news#Remembrance22) to access.

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# Hazing

Hazing is a widespread, far-reaching practice fueled by tradition, secrecy, groupthink, power, and the desire to belong in fraternities and sororities on college campuses across the U.S. Filmmaker Byron Hurt embarks on a deeply personal journey to understand the underground rituals of hazing, revealing the abusive lengths college students will go to fit in.

The documentary explores acts of hazing as a practice that occurs in many membership organizations including fraternities and sororities across the United States, some of which have anti-hazing policies.

Please click [here](https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/documentaries/hazingfilm/) to access.

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# A New Approach To Domestic Violence

There’s a quiet movement underway to have doctors and other health care providers take the lead in spotting domestic abuse and – hopefully – intervening before it gets worse.

Please click [here](https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2022/09/14/what-if-doctors-are-better-at-treating-domestic-abuse-than-cops-00053374) to read.

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# Handle With Care

**Thursday, September 22, from noon to 1 pm EST**

This virtual course discusses Handle with Care, an innovative program taking place in several states across the country. Handle with Care creates a network of communication between local law enforcement and schools that alerts school personnel that a child has been exposed to or witnessed a violent crime. This program highlights the benefits of community organizations working together to support children and increase awareness of the effects of crime on youth and community.

Please click [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqc-mqrDorGNdGJ_mgRiuWN8gV7m5bC-HZ) to register.

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# Naturalization Of VAWA, SIJS, U, And T Visa Recipient Survivors: TTA From USCIS And NIWAP

**Friday September 23, 2022 12:00 pm**

This webinar will provide participants with an overview of the naturalization process of VAWA, SIJS, U, and T visa recipients. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will discuss their work to remove barriers to citizenship and promote naturalization under  [Executive Order 14012](http://go2.mailengine1.com/click/fohe-2kmoxn-d5s8i4-9t2u9v33/)and the [Interagency Strategy for Promoting Naturalization](http://go2.mailengine1.com/click/fohe-2kmoxn-d5s8i5-9t2u9v34/), as well as review the naturalization application process and address the particular circumstances, needs, and concerns of lawful permanent residents who were VAWA self-petitioners, T and U visa holders, and Special Immigrant Juveniles.

Please click [here](https://vawnet.org/events/naturalization-vawa-sijs-u-and-t-visa-recipient-survivors-tta-uscis-and-niwap) to register.

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# Gender Based Violence And The Latinx Community

**Tuesday, September 22, from 2 pm to 3:15 pm EST**

Gender-based Violence and the LatinX Community will feature a panel of experts will share what the field currently knows about gender-based violence in the Latinx community. The first panelist will discuss cultural beliefs and stigma surrounding the help-seeking process for survivors of intimate partner violence; and how-to better support service engagement and programming. The second panelist group will address gaps in understanding sexual violence rates among Latinx students and their rates of, and experiences with, disclosure and reporting to law enforcement. A moderated Q&A session will follow the presentations

Please click [here](https://umbsswcpe.ce21.com/item/vaw-gbv-latinx) to register.

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# Exploring The Opportunities And Challenges Of Collaborating Across Disciplines

On September 28, OVC TTAC will hold an Expert Q&A to allow advocates and other allies to explore creating meaningful cross-system priorities and leverage blended and braided funding to support effective collaboration while leading with a community-responsive approach to working with victims of crime.

Please click [here](https://icf.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_GC05PQxfSoKDL-b0W3VTfw) to register.

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# HAVIN Training

HAVIN is pleased to present the following 2 FREE in-person trainings: Tuesday September 27  
  
**Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation**   
  
**Presented by: LaTrenda Leonard Sherrill, Principal & Lead Consultant with Common Cause Consultants**

Derived from Bread for The World’s Institute and Network, the Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation is an interactive tool for illustrating the legacy of racial inequality in the United States and follows 13 federal policies that were enacted from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Participants accumulate “land,” “money,” and “lost opportunities,” which reflect the real-life inequalities that each of the policies created. By analyzing the cumulative impact of legislation, the Racial Wealth Gap Simulation highlights the effects of systemic racism and asks participants to rethink their conceptions of equity in the workforce, housing, education, and beyond.  Due to systemic racism, racist policies, and racist societal structures, both Black women and Black men experience intimate partner violence at a disproportionately high rate. By intentionally denying Black people access to economic opportunities, the ability to build intergenerational wealth, healthcare, education, and a sense of safety from governmental systems, racist policies increase the prevalence of risk factors for domestic violence. These systems create numerous barriers for survivors seeking safety. (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence)  
  
*This course is interactive. Class participation is a MUST. Debate is required and opinions are encouraged.*

**LGBTQ+ 101**   
  
**Presented by: Ted Hoover, Persad Center**

"LGBTQ+ 101" is a basic training covering fundamentals of the LGBTQ+ experience. We look at current terms, definitions and vocabulary; explore the social context of discrimination and examine some of the physical and behavioral disparities experienced by the LGBTQ+ community. There’s an extended look at SOGIE (Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity & Expression) with an examination of the challenges and issues facing trans and non-binary people with a discussion of current best practices for working with that population. The program finishes with a look at what you and your organization can do to create a safe, welcoming environment.  Domestic violence is not limited to heterosexual relationships and can affect individuals of all sexual orientations and genders. Within the LGBTQ community, intimate partner violence occurs at a rate equal to or even higher than that of the heterosexual community. LGBTQ individuals may experience unique forms of intimate partner violence as well as distinctive barriers to seeking help due to fear of discrimination or bias. (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence)

**Who should attend:** Law Enforcement, Members of Judiciary, Prosecutors, Advocates, Probation/Parole, Mental Health Professionals, Medical Providers, Caseworkers, School Personnel

**Local Law Enforcement reimbursement is available for time and mileage.**

**Belmont Complex: 415 Butler Rd, Kittanning, PA 16201**

**Registration at 8:30 AM.**

**Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation: 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

**Lunch will be provided from 11:30AM until 12:30 PM.**

**LGBTQ+ 101: 12:30 PM-2:30 PM**

Please contact Jen Wingard for more information at jwingard@havinpa.org

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# Health Equity Approaches To Preventing Sexual And Intimate Partner Violence

**Thursday September 29, 2022 2:00PM**

A health equity approach to preventing sexual and intimate partner violence prevention – from development to implementation to evaluation – addresses the roots of inequities that contribute to violence and the factors that contribute to higher rates of sexual violence. Join PreventConnect and the American Public Health Association to build a foundation for understanding health equity and its link to sexual and intimate partner violence prevention.

Please click [here](https://vawnet.org/events/health-equity-approaches-preventing-sexual-and-intimate-partner-violence-overview) to register

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# Refugee Education Summit And Paving The Way To Educational Success Conference

**Sept. 26–29, 2022 | Kalahari Resorts and Conventions, Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, and Virtual**

The summit and conference provide a unique opportunity to deepen your knowledge and practice for working with students experiencing homelessness and students in foster care and for understanding, supporting, and engaging newcomer refugee students and their families.

There is no cost to attend.

Registration opens in August.

Click [here](https://pheedloop.com/ptwconference2022/site/home/) for more information.

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# 2022 PCADV Conference: Embracing Equity and Centering Communities

**October 6-7 in Harrisburg, PA (or Virtual!)**

After going virtual in 2020, PCADV is excited to announce that our biennial conference will return in October 2022 in Harrisburg, PA. Along with the in-person conference, there will be a virtual option to accommodate even more attendees across PA and beyond.

Please click [here](https://www.pcadv.org/conference/) for more information.

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# Foundational Academy

**Registration Information for the OCTOBER Victim Services Foundational Academy**

The last Academy of 2022 will be held as follows:

**October 26 - 28, 2022**

The Graduate Hotel

125 South Atherton Street

State College, PA 16801

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

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

Registration will be open August 29 - 31, 2022 under the PDAI Training Calendar at [www.pdaa.org](http://www.pdaa.org). Trainings are listed by date; you will need to scroll down to October to find the information.

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

Once prioritized, the top 60 applicants will be notified of their acceptance into Academy. All others will be placed on the waitlist and notified of such. The selection process will take up to 2 weeks. All pending applicants will be contacted as soon as the lists are finalized. We ask for your patience during that time period; as a reminder, **we will contact you** either way.

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

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

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

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

T: 717.333.2319 B: PDAA/I 717.238.5416/[www.pdaa.org](http://www.pdaa.org)

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# Domestic Violence Murder Suicides

**Wednesday, October 19, at 1:00 pm EST**

Murder-suicide incidents account for a disproportionate rate of domestic violence-related deaths nationwide, however services for survivors are limited and rare. After nearly a decade of studying the homicide-suicide connection in fatal incidents of abuse, the State of Georgia has implemented services unique to this population of often overlooked survivors. This workshop will highlight data on murder-suicide, discuss the close ties between domestic violence-related homicide and suicide for the purpose of bolstering prevention efforts, explore the unique needs of survivors, and provide an overview of supportive interventions being cultivated in Georgia and a roadmap for similar implementation in attendees’ home communities

Please click [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mEAOedvJR_mxb5UhBRCEOw) to register

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# 2022 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

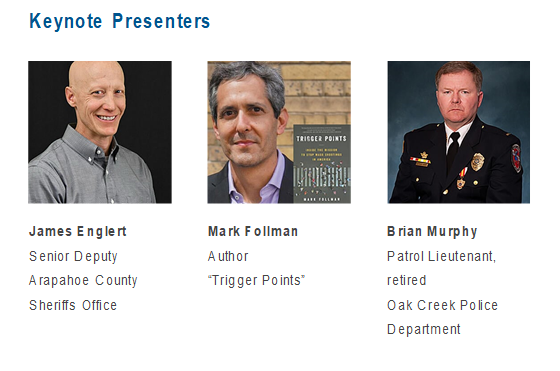
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| --- |
| **cid:182fe1ec09811bfad144**  ***Back and Better: Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice’s Journey of Introspection and Improvement***  **cid:182fe1ec0987605c1152**  **November 2–4, 2022 at the Hilton Harrisburg**  **Be prepared for an interactive, engaging, IN-PERSON event with plenary speakers, educational workshops,  professional caucuses, resources day, networking opportunities, and much more!**  [Registration is now OPEN!](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcjcjems.pa.gov%2FCPS%2FConferenceDefault.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C79d19facd0674718421a08da8cdcb8cc%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637977177238967297%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2gK4RV2ugbKUebOexFfminIA2kfUKyag5ocGXdC0pZA%3D&reserved=0)  **To register, please visit** [**www.jcjcjems.pa.gov**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcjcjems.pa.gov%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C79d19facd0674718421a08da8cdcb8cc%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637977177238967297%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ct66QGdO%2FGp9XabU8y5C39dPKquyGQVlDxdQvjh7EdA%3D&reserved=0)  **Login or create an account to complete the registration process.**  **Email confirmation will be provided following registration.**    **The James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice is a wonderful venue to  gain valuable skills and make lasting connections with juvenile justice stakeholders.**    **We look forward to seeing you at the Hilton Harrisburg November 2–4, 2022!**    Pennsylvania Continuing Judicial Education (CJE) and Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits will be awarded for attending approved conference events.  National Association of Social Workers (NASW-PA) will award Continuing Education (CE) credits for completion of approved workshops.    Logo, company name  Description automatically generated |

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# 2022 School Safety Summit



Join the Center for Safe Schools on November 1-2, 2022 in Harrisburg, PA to receive actionable strategies to support a comprehensive school safety plan and process. Leave inspired and equipped to take school safety and climate to the next level.



Please click [here](https://pheedloop.com/schoolsafetysummitfall2022/site/) to register.

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on September 28, 2022.

* Transportation Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Relocation Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on October 4, 2022.

* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Myths of Compensation Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Counseling Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on October 25, 2022.

* Basic Compensation – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation which counts towards 2 and DAVE training which counts towards 2.25.

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

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# Women’s Resources Of Monroe County – Employment Opportunities

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

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# A Woman’s Place – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Safe Berks – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://recruiting.paylocity.com/recruiting/jobs/Details/1088748/Safe-Berks/Staff-Attorney) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Turning Point Of Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Northeast Victim Service – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.linkedin.com%2Fjobs%2Fview%2F3223785858%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C08df5d69f53b4c1223b508da80910e9e%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637963658492514285%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eyThhcBmjGRTednCr3gdz8UDfZUrU5aQZgXz7SaLuTU%3D&reserved=0) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Blackburn Center – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.blackburncenter.org/jobs) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Women’s Center & Shelter Of Greater Pittsburgh – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.pirclaw.org/employment/) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Center For Victims – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.centerforvictims.org/make-a-difference-today/employment-opportunities/) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Legal Aid of Southeastern PA – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.lasp.org/careers) to see current employment opportunities.

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# YWCA – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](http://www.ywcahbg.org/employment#.YsiECDfMJaQ) to see current employment opportunities.

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The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **October 5, 2022**.  If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Lea Dorsey at [ledorsey@pa.gov](mailto:ledorsey@pa.gov)  by Wednesday, **September 28, 2022**.

You have signed up to receive the OVS Newsletter from the Office of Victims' Services.  This newsletter will be sent to you on a biweekly basis via email.  If your email address changes or you would like to be removed from the OVS Newsletter distribution list, please contact Lea Dorsey at (717) 265-8733 or via email at [ledorsey@pa.gov](mailto:ledorsey@pa.gov).

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Pennsylvania’s [Office of Victims’ Services](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx)  |  3101 North Front Street  |  Harrisburg, PA  17110 |

(717) 783-0551

[www.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pccd.pa.gov)

**PA Crime Victims Website**

[www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov)

**Twitter:** [@PaCrimeCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)m.