**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

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*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

December 1, 2021

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* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=pccd&service=6&rnd=0.6668060301536507&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fpccd.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fprogram%2FprogramDetail.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26internalProgramTicket%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26siteurl%3Dpccd%26internalProgramTicketUnList%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26cProgViewID%3D1727107%26PRID%3D9c0a5f356b9ee12dc7de27fe147bb352)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).

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# Crime Against Disabled People Is Rising

Disabled people are disproportionately victims of violent crime and victimization in the United States, according to new data released by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. And the frequency of these crimes is also increasing, according to the data, though activists don't seem to know why.

Please click [here](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/crime-against-disabled-people-is-rising-and-advocates-say-more-needs-to-be-done/ar-AAQXCd4?ocid=BingNewsSearch) to read.

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# Fears Of Being A Victim Of A Crime Spiked After COVID Lockdowns Eased: Poll

Americans in 2021 became more fearful of falling victim to crimes like burglary and identity theft after the relative quiet of lockdowns last year, despite actual victimization rates increasing just slightly over last year.

Fear of crime has largely returned to 2019 levels, [a new Gallup poll has found,](https://news.gallup.com/poll/357116/crime-fears-rebound-lull-during-2020-lockdowns.aspx) with the percentage of adults who “frequently” or “occasionally” worry about certain violent or property crimes up between five and nine points over last year.

Please click [here](https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/581003-fears-of-being-a-victim-of-a-crime-spiked-after-covid-lockdowns) to read.

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# FBI Urges Hate Crime Victims To Report

With hate crimes surging -- particularly against Asian Americans -- the FBI is launching a campaign urging victims and witnesses to report attacks.

Please click [here](https://www.wusa9.com/article/features/producers-picks/hate-crime-surge-has-fbi-urging-victims-to-report-attacks/65-6fda1726-593c-4df5-969d-070e86016d90) to read.

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# Understanding The Effects Of The Pandemic For Domestic Violence Victims

On Friday, October 29, 2021, OVC and the Office on Violence Against Women hosted a webinar on Understanding the Effects of the Pandemic for Domestic Violence Victims.

Federal Government representatives, researchers, and service providers discussed how COVID-19 has impacted the occurrence of domestic violence across the country. Presenters offered an analysis of domestic violence calls, a discussion about the inequities experienced by underserved populations, and covered the challenges service providers experienced and their innovative responses to help those in need.

Please click [here](https://ovc.ojp.gov/media/video/14061) to view.

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# America’s Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2021

The OJJDP-sponsored report “America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2021” explores the impact and lasting effects violence has on youth who experience, witness, or feel threatened by it.

Please click [here](https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/library/publications/americas-children-key-national-indicators-well-being-2021?utm_campaign=ojp_digests&utm_content=november&utm_medium=email) to read.

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# Report Cards On Child & Youth Sex Trafficking

Shared Hope International just released its inaugural Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking.

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

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# Preventing And Responding To Sexual Violence In Disasters Guide

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) recognized the need for updated resources that help to highlight and carry forward the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and other recent disasters, with particular attention to the [racial and social inequities](https://oaesv.org/what-we-do/resources-for-providers/covid19-emerging-response-resources/most-impacted-communities/) that shape both disasters and sexual violence. We convened an advisory group of organizations working at local, state, and national levels to support Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian American and Pacific Islander survivors of sexual violence. These movement leaders have guided the creation of this resource.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/2012-04/Publications_NSVRC_Guides_Sexual-Violence-in-Disasters_A-planning-guide-for-prevention-and-response_0.pdf) to read.

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# Futures Without Violence- Action Alert

This Action Alert from Futures Without Violence is urging Senators to vote YES on the *Build Back Better* bill.

Please click [here](https://p2a.co/uVmpkg4) to read.

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# Hate Crimes And Mass Violence

“Hate Crimes and Mass Violence” is the latest Mass Violence Podcast (MVP) sponsored by the National Mass Violence Victimization Resource Center.  Dr. Dan Smith is joined by Georgia State Senator Michelle Au. Months after being sworn into office, Sen. Au's district faced a shooting spree that primarily targeted Asian-owned businesses. Sen. Au talks about the Atlanta spa shootings and the simmering, hate-based violence the Asian American and Pacific Islander community has faced over the last two years.

Please click [here](https://www.nmvvrc.org/media/zrwbjhrh/mvp-s2e6-michelleau.mp3) to listen.

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# No More Verbal Abuse Toolkit

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence has published its No More Verbal Abuse Toolkit, which features prevention resources, sample social media posts, bystander resources, and great camera-ready artwork.

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nomoreverbalabuse.org%2Ftoolkit&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C5cfb66b1a86546175d1608d9b39bb974%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637738304819573891%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=xtfdmfOCoepKYQGHMrCEv23EeFF4NoIoi0Z5x3eaHBU%3D&reserved=0) to read.

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# Mental Health Resources In The LGBTQ+ Community

The Human Rights Campaign recently published Mental Health Resources in the LGBTQ+ Community, which features helpful online resources and toll-free crisis lines for LGBTQ+ adults and teens.

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hrc.org%2Fresources%2Fmental-health-resources-in-the-lgbtq-community&data=04%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C5cfb66b1a86546175d1608d9b39bb974%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637738304819583850%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=gDYg420Fz0%2B8X4ojciRkOCeFInQyUxqy8YiDV1qTVew%3D&reserved=0) to read.

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# Resources And Support For Transgender Survivors

This list aims to provide a comprehensive array of contacts, support resources, and recommended materials which members of the transgender community and their allies may find helpful.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/resources-and-support-transgender-survivors) to read.

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# Foundational Academy – New Registration Process For 2022

Foundational Academies will be held as follows:

**MARCH 23 – 25, 2022**

**JULY 13 – 15, 2022**

**OCTOBER 26 – 28, 2022**

All Academies will be held***in-person*** at

The Graduate Hotel

125 South Atherton Street

State College, PA 16801.

*There is no virtual or hybrid option.*

Registration is free and hotel rooms, parking, and lunch are included. Participants are on their own in the evenings.

**NEW for 2022:** Registration for each Academy will open approximately 60 days prior to the start date of Academy under the Training Calendar at [www.pdaa.org](http://www.pdaa.org) and will be open for a period of **THREE DAYS** only. During this time, those who wish to attend that specific 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, 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 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 Email [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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# Firearm Restriction Laws And Intimate Partner Homicide: Protective Effects By Race

In this webinar participants will hear from researchers Charvonne N. Holliday, PhD and April Zeoli, PhD about their recent study examining whether domestic violence firearm restriction laws were associated with reductions in intimate partner homicide and firearm intimate partner homicide in Black and White populations, separately.

Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/resource-center/resource-results/firearms-restrictions-laws.html) to read.

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# Criminal Justice From The Child’s Perspective: Supporting Child Victims And Witnesses

Interacting with the criminal legal system can be confusing, overwhelming and even retraumatizing for children and teens. However, through the Center for Court Innovation's Child Witness Materials Development Project, a package of interactive, developmentally-informed educational materials has been created to facilitate effective and trauma-informed support for children involved in state, federal, and tribal court systems as victims and witnesses of crime. In this webinar, participants learn about how children and teens experience the criminal legal system; best practices in educating, preparing, and supporting children through this experience as a practitioner; and how these new court support materials can be used to mitigate trauma by helping children to feel more informed, empowered, and less distressed when navigating this system.

Please click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3zu7ud5WAQ&t=1s) to view.

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# Advances in Human Trafficking Identification

This webinar will present findings from two forward-thinking human trafficking studies that focus on human trafficking victim identification. This webinar will be of keen interest to investigators, victim services and health professionals, administrators of escort ad web scraping tools and databases, academics, and anyone interested in more precise tools to support the process of identifying human trafficking victims. **December 7 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm.**

Learn more and to register by clicking [here](https://victimresearch.org/event/advances-in-human-trafficking-victim-identification/).

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# Pretrial Justice And Intimate Partner Violence: A National Portrait

Join the National Center for Victims of Crime and the Center for Court Innovation for a webinar on pretrial practices in domestic violence cases on **Monday, December 13th at 2:00 PM EST**! “As pretrial releases and bail reform become more commonplace across the country, systems are grappling with how best to ensure the safety of survivors in these cases. To better understand the scope of pretrial practices in intimate partner violence (IPV) cases, the Center for Court Innovation conducted a mixed-methods study on the intersection of pretrial reform and victims’ safety and justice, with results gathered from a sample of 50 jurisdictions across the United States that have undertaken general reform efforts. During this webinar, representatives from CCI will discuss these results, as well as the five in-depth site case studies that were done as part of the project.”

Please click [here](https://victimsofcrime.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wPRhq_TiTOmFnBhfd1sQsw) to register.

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on December 7, 2021.

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

The following trainings will be held on December 20, 2021.

* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Myths of Compensation Clinic – 11:00 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 2.15.

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 Inc. – Employment Opportunities

Women’s Resources of Monroe County is a nonprofit, community based agency in Monroe County, Pennsylvania that provides free and confidential comprehensive support services to victims of domestic and/or sexual violence, their families and significant others; prevention education and risk reduction programs in schools and the community, and training to the professionals who work with the victims of these crimes.

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

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# Crime Victims Council Of The Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley provides counseling, court accompaniment, medical advocacy, and prevention education at no cost. We want survivors and community members across the Lehigh Valley to know if something happens, we will be there every step of the way in any way possible.

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

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# PAAR – Employment Opportunities

Pittsburgh Action Against Rape was incorporated as a non-profit entity in 1972 and has been providing essential no-cost services to victims of sexual violence in Allegheny County for over 49 years, and is the only agency solely devoted to the issue of sexual violence.

Please click [here](https://paar.net/jobs/) to view current job opportunities.

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# Neighborhood Legal Services – Employment Opportunities

Neighborhood Legal Services Association (NLS) was established in 1966 as a non-profit, public interest law firm to provide civil legal assistance to poor and vulnerable residents of Allegheny (and later) Beaver, Butler and Lawrence Counties.

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

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# YWCA Greater Harrisburg – Employment Opportunities

**The YWCA Greater Harrisburg is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.**

Please click [here](http://www.ywcahbg.org/employment#.YZOy8k7MI2w) to view current job opportunities.

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# Network of Victim Assistance – Employment Opportunities

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) is a nonprofit organization serving victims of sexual assault and other crimes. Located in Bucks County, PA, NOVA is the comprehensive victim services organization in Bucks County.  With a 45-year history, NOVA has expanded to include a continuum of prevention and direct services to prevent and address the needs of victims of sexual abuse and other serious crimes.  NOVA is known across many disciplines and the community at large for its exceptional services and professionalism.  With a 4.5-million-dollar operating budget, NOVA continues to grow.  As a mature and fiscally sound organization, establishing sustainability is key to our future success -- serving all victims who need services, educating the community at large on violence prevention in our community, and providing top-ranked professional trainings.

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

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# Blackburn Center – Employment Opportunities

Blackburn Center advocates for the rights of all individuals to live free from domestic and sexual violence and other forms of violence by eliminating the root causes of this violence and providing for the well-being and safety of survivors/victims.

Please click [here](https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=blackburn%20center&l&vjk=83043166f9f125bd) to view current job opportunities.

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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 Lea Dorsey at [ledorsey@pa.gov](mailto:ledorsey@pa.gov).

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **December 15, 2021**.  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, **December 8, 2021**.

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.