**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Michael Pennington**

 *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

February 10, 2021

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Upcoming Events

* + [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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# **Stimulus Checks Could Change Survivors’ Lives**

For survivors, stimulus payments aren’t just what they need to weather a pandemic. They can be a pathway out of abuse. What happens when abusers withhold stimulus checks from their victims?  ‘It basically perpetuates the abuse,’ one expert said.

Please click [here](https://www.thelily.com/stimulus-checks-could-change-survivors-lives-some-abusers-are-withholding-them-advocates-say/?tid=more_from_lily) to read more.

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# When Protective Orders Don’t Protect

The lack of firearms restrictions in many states in domestic violence cases is addressed in this article.

Please click [here](https://www.thetrace.org/2021/01/domestic-violence-gun-protective-order-rosemarie-reilly-michigan/) to read.

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# Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Reveals She’s A Sexual Assault Survivor

The congresswoman said she was sharing her experiences to show how survivors can be harmed by both their experiences of abuse and others’ denials of them. Experts say Ocasio-Cortez’s explicit language around trauma may help facilitate other women’s healing.

Please click [here](https://www.thelily.com/in-alexandria-ocasio-cortez-these-survivors-found-a-voice-i-felt-with-her-the-deeply-vulnerable-pain-of-telling-someone/) to read more.

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# Lessons Learned From The Field: Maintaining Victim Services During The COVID-19 Pandemic

 Please click [here](https://vimeo.com/490783749) to view a virtual discussion Presented by the National District Attorneys Association and CAN about lessons learned about maintaining victim services amidst the current conditions.

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# Pandemic, Social Unrest And Crime In U.S. Cities 2020 Year-End Update

The Council on Criminal Justice, its National Commission on COVID-19 and Criminal Justice, and Arnold Ventures just released its year-end Impact Report: COVID-19 and Crime, “Pandemic, Social Unrest and Crime in U.S. Cities.”

Please click [here](https://cdn.ymaws.com/counciloncj.org/resource/resmgr/covid_commission/Year_End_Crime_Update_Design.pdf) to read.

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# Human Trafficking Action Research Toolkit

OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center just released its “Human Trafficking Action Research Toolkit,” which features great strategic planning and logic model strategies that strengthen programs and partnerships.

Please click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/downloads/views/HowWeCanHelp/HT/OVC_TTAC_Human_Trafficking_Action_Research_Toolkit_Revised_Dec2020_FINAL_508c_011921_JE.pdf) to read.

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# McKinsey Paying $573M in Opioid Deal

McKinsey & Co. reached a $573 million settlement with states over its work advising OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma LP and other drug manufacturers to market opioid painkillers.

Please click [here](https://crimeandjusticenews.asu.edu/news/mckinsey-paying-573m-opioid-deal) to read more.

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# Brooklyn DA Dismisses Prostitution-Related Warrants

Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez announced Friday that his office had moved to vacate 262 warrants stemming from prostitution charges, which his office no longer prosecutes.

Please click [here](https://nypost.com/2021/01/29/brooklyn-da-gonzalez-dismisses-prostitution-related-warrants/) to read more.

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# Life After the Gunshot

In 2017, the PATIENTS Program at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy funded study led by University of Maryland Professor, Dr. Joseph Richardson, to qualitatively understand how young Black male survivors of violent firearm-related injuries treated at the University of Maryland Prince George’s Hospital Trauma Center coped with their recovery, specifically the traumatic stress associated with gun violence and violent injury. Please click [here](https://www.lifeafterthegunshot.com/about) to read more.

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# Preventing Teen Dating Violence

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention created a fact sheet focused on preventing teen dating violence. Please click [here](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv/TDV-factsheet_2020.pdf) to review.

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# Resources for COVID-19 Response

NSVRC continues to share information and tools to support the critical role of partners and online community. Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/resources-for-covid-19-response) to read about some key resources and recommendations on COVID-19 as it relates to the work to end sexual harassment, abuse, and assault.

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# What Do The Data Reveal About Violence In Schools

National Institute of Justice study has new data related to violence in schools Please click [here](https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/what-do-data-reveal-about-violence-schools?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nijjournal) to read.

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# National Gun Violence Survivor Week Toolkit

The 3rd Annual National Gun Violence Survivor Week was the first week in February.  A Toolkit was released and its resources are applicable year-round. Please click [here](https://act.everytown.org/sign/download-NGVSW-toolkit/) to access.

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# Myths, Facts, and Statistics

Human trafficking is complex and dynamic. It is widespread but exact numbers are hard to come by. It follows patterns, but every situation is also unique. There is so much more to learn, and so much misinformation already out there. Please click [here](https://polarisproject.org/myths-facts-and-statistics/#new_tab) to read what we really know.

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# Traumatic Brain Injury And Domestic Violence: What Are The Connections?

We know that domestic violence is a pattern of abuse and that victims are experience repeated instances of physical, mental, emotional, psychological and spiritual violence. Traumatic brain injuries are often the result of repeated physical abuse and are cumulative and not unlike those experienced by athletes who have had multiple concussions. This important webinar will discuss the intersection of domestic violence and traumatic brain injury (TBI), strategies for advocates, the importance of trauma-informed approaches and provide valuable resources to strengthen our advocacy and understanding TBI effects. [**REGISTER**](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8461064542941377549)

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# Just Exits: Achieving Justice: The Prosecutor’s Role

The criminal justice system can serve as both an on-ramp to an-off ramp from sex trafficking and exploitation. As gatekeepers within the criminal justice system, prosecutors are uniquely positioned to identify sexually exploited women and girls, make fair charging decisions, facilitate criminal record relief, and link survivors with services and support. In these ways, prosecutors can clear the way to a different life path and achieve justice for survivors. Please click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hB5I8VChTxc&%3Bfeature=youtu.be) to watch a webinar where presenters discuss strategies for engaging survivors, avoiding wrongful criminalization, and providing access to just criminal record relief.

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# Accessing Victims Of Human Trafficking In The Protection Order Process: Challenges And Options

Human trafficking victims often experience several forms of abuse, such as domestic violence and sexual assault. These survivors may be afraid to disclose information to obtain relevant legal assistance, thereby remaining vulnerable to traffickers. To address this issue, attorneys must have the knowledge and tools to understand human trafficking, identify victims, and recognize the legal needs of these survivors. Please click [here](https://www.bwjp.org/resource-center/resource-results/recording-assisting-victims-trafficking.html) to watch a webinar that examines the complexities of human trafficking and the challenges survivors face when deciding whether or not to obtain a protection order.

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# HAVIN Trainings

HAVIN is sponsoring the following 2 **free** virtual trainings. Questions? Email Jen Wingard at jwingard@havinpa.org

To register, click on the dates below

[Friday February 19, 2021](https://mcusercontent.com/8c3c0243173ce93a05d538d53/files/a8f27b79-9b0a-43fc-a8d4-0dcf751fa667/February19.01.pdf)

***Stalking: and its Relationship to Intimate Partner Violence***

***Sex Offenders***

[Friday February 26, 2021](https://mcusercontent.com/8c3c0243173ce93a05d538d53/files/a6ce8032-7d9c-4330-8627-74d3e33600dd/February26.01.pdf)

***Implicit Bias & Applied Intersectionality***

***Every Day, Every Town: Lifting the Veil on Human Sex Trafficking***

There is reimbursement for Armstrong County Law Enforcement.

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# Clery Center Trainings

The Clery Center is offering some great, free virtual training programs, “Beyond the Basics,” that can strengthen your understanding and implementation of the *Clery Act*, with upcoming sessions

[February 24, 2021](https://clerycenter.org/events-feed/)

**Beyond the Basics: Reading the Regs Part I**

[April 14, 2021](https://clerycenter.org/events-feed/)

**Beyond the Basics: Reading the Regs Part II**

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

 The following trainings will be held on February 24, 2021.

* Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
* Myths of Compensation - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following trainings will be held on March 3, 2021.

* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
* Medical Expenses Clinic - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following trainings will be held on March 10, 2021.

* Relocation Expenses Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following training will be held on March 17, 2021.

* Basic Compensation - 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on March 24, 2021.

* Loss of Support Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.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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# Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System

PCCD’s Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) offers its Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System to fill a need for easily accessible, high-quality, free training for victim advocates at PCCD-funded programs. PVST courses count for PCCD training hours and courses can be taken as the learner’s schedule permits. The PVST also keeps a record of a user’s course completion and credit hours earned.  The courses on the PVST are designed to complement, reinforce and enhance the PCCD Foundational Academy and the online offerings on the learning management systems operated by PCADV, PCAR and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association.

The PVST is resource center for PCCD funded programs and allied professionals whose work brings them into contact with crime victim populations to receive free, quality, and easily accessible training. The training is Pennsylvania-specific, web based, and can be taken on the student’s own timeframe. There are currently 24 approved programs, totaling 48 hours of training, on the PVST.

To access the PVST, please click [here](https://pavictimservicestraining.org/). The registration code is 7223.

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# Your Safe Haven Inc (Bedford County) – Employment Opportunity

Your Safe Haven Inc is a private non-profit comprehensive crime victims center seeking a highly motivated Executive Director.

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.yoursafehaven.org%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7Cc3ac1b3802ca4284449b08d8c8939836%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637479884095447311%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0&sdata=tlC%2FYf07LFNKBRv8S%2FPI9inVNg4uBSERo4erPC17i2k%3D&reserved=0) for a complete job description and more details.

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# Crisis Shelter – Employment Opportunities

Since 1981 the Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County has been the community’s response to violence and abuse, serving victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Other Serious Crimes and Older Victims of Any Crime, as well as services to Human Trafficking victims, while also working to prevent violence and abuse through prevention education, intervention training and public awareness.

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

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# Safe Berks – Employment Opportunities

Safe Berks provides safe haven and support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our advocacy and education programs increase awareness of oppression and promote the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Please click [here](https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Recruiting/Jobs/All/30c7801b-0ca4-49dc-80bf-6558d7b75f0e) to view current job opportunities.

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# Transitions of PA – Employment Opportunities

Transitions of PA is a nonprofit organization serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other serious crimes in Union, Snyder, and Northumberland Counties. Established in 1976, Transitions provides prevention education, professional training, legal advocacy, civil legal assistance, counseling, and shelter.

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

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# YWCA – 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/) to view current job opportunities.

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# The Crime Victims' Center of Chester County – Employment Opportunities

The Crime Victims’ Center of Chester County, Inc. (CVC) is a private, community-based, non-profit 501(c)(3) comprehensive victim services agency. CVC is the designated provider of services to sexual violence victims for Chester County, however we serve victims of all types of crime including domestic violence.

Please click [here](file:///C%3A/Users/ledorsey/OneDrive%20-%20Commonwealth%20of%20Pennsylvania/ETO%20Administrator.doc) to view current job opportunities. Interested candidates can email their resume to ChristineZ@cvcofcc.org.

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# Crisis Center North – Employment Opportunities

Crisis Center North is a counseling and resource center that provides services to victims of domestic violence and their loved ones in northern and western Allegheny County via counseling, therapy, case management, legal and medical advocacy and economic empowerment services. In addition, the Center provides community trainings on topics related to intimate partner violence and teen dating violence, as well as prevention education programming to local schools.

Please click [here](file://CDHBGPRFPFIL001.pa.lcl/PCCD/OrgUnit/OVS/OVS%20Info/Information%20for%20Clerical%20Staff/OVS%20Newsletter/2020/CCN%20Economic%20Empowerment%20Advocate%20Job%20Description.doc) to view current job opportunities.

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# Crime Victims Center Of Fayette County – Employment Opportunities

Crime Victims Center of Fayette County is a private non-profit corporation founded in 1975. Originally known as the Women's Resource Center, our agency has expanded its services to become a comprehensive center to include all victims of violent crimes.

Please click [here](https://www.crimevictimscenter.com/index.php/about-us/employment.html) to view current job opportunities.

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# Neighborhood Legal Services – Employment Opportunities

NLS secures justice and resolves fundamental legal problems for those who are low-income and vulnerable in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence Counties by providing high-quality legal services and community legal education.  Founded in 1966, NLS has provided civil legal aid to more than 1.2 million of our low-income neighbors in need of legal assistance.

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

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# Nationalities Service Center – Employment Opportunities

Nationalities Service Center (NSC) serves more than 5,000 immigrants and refugees each year from over 110 countries.  We provide comprehensive services in immigration law matters, community transition and integration, access to health and wellness, language access and proficiency, and job readiness training for immigrants and refugees. NSC’s mission is to welcome and empower immigrants to thrive in our communities and pursue a just future.  Our vision is that all immigrants achieve a life of safety and stability, sustainable opportunities, and meaningful community connections.

Please click [here](https://nscphila.org/about-us/careers) to view current job opportunities.

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# Turning Point Of Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley is expanding its team! We are a non-profit working to eliminate domestic and intimate partner abuse in the Lehigh Valley.

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

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# Domestic Violence Service Center – Employment Opportunity

Change the world in real time ...

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

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# A Woman’s Place – Employment Opportunities

A Woman’s Place (AWP), a community-based social change organization serving victims of domestic violence, currently has open employment opportunities.

Please click [here](https://awomansplace.org/) 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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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.

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **February 24, 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 by Wednesday, **February 17, 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.

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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.