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 *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

February 28, 2020

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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).

* + [Additional RASA/VOJO/VOCA Approved Training](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/RASA-VOCA-VOJO-Trainings.aspx)

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# Job Opening In The Office Of Victims’ Services

The Victims Compensation Assistance Program within the Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) currently has a vacancy for Criminal Justice System Specialists who is Bilingual – Spanish speaking. This position is responsible for providing financial reimbursement/guidance and other compensation related services to victims of crime, their families and/or significant others, and other claimants who primarily speak Spanish.

The vacancy is currently posted thru 3/6/2020.  You can apply for the Criminal Justice System Specialist 1 vacancy at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau>. In the Search box, type Criminal Justice System Specialist and hit enter.  If any jobs are currently open, they will be listed.  Unlike in the past, there is no examination where a prospective candidate can be placed on a list with a score.  Under the new system, the score you receive is for that particular job announcement.  Interested candidates will need to apply for each individual position.

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# Network of Victim Assistance - Employment Opportunity

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA), a nonprofit organization in Bucks County, PA serving victims of sexual assault and other crimes, seeks a part-time (27 hours per week) **HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE ORGANIZER** to join its team. The role of the Task Force Organizer is to serve as a primary point of contact for the Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking (BCAT) task force leadership and membership. The goal of the position is to facilitate and coordinate community organization and action around human trafficking.  Responsibilities include management of administrative and operational activities of the task force including monitoring of and overall responsibility for the workplan goals established by the task force Advisory Committee.

Social work, human services or related Master’s degree preferred (Bachelor’s degree with relevant experience will be considered). The ideal candidate will have experience with community organization/community engagement, public speaking and training experience, and a flexible schedule to fulfill training requests and attend meetings.

Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Applicants must send a cover letter with salary requirements in addition to their resume to DebGH@novabucks.org. AA/EOE.

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# VetoViolence

Since its debut in 2009, the VetoViolence website has been and continues to be an ever-expanding site that provides free, interactive, and engaging violence prevention tools and trainings. Each resource is based on the best available evidence and research to help you stop violence before it happens in your community. Please click [here](https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/main/home) to learn more.

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# Healing Of Boys And Men Of Color Training Curricula

The Healing of Boys and Men of Color Training Curricula supports victim service providers in understanding and implementing a holistic healing framework for Boys and Men of Color. The series has three core modules: Trauma 101; Historical Trauma; and Strengths-Based Policy Development. Additionally, each module has a corresponding Trainer’s Guide with additional resources, activities, and guidance on using the curricula. Please click [here](http://reachingvictims.org/resource/healing-of-boys-and-men-of-color-training-curricula/) to access more information, including downloadable resources and text resources.

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# Enhanced Collaborative Model To Combat Human Trafficking

The Enhanced Collaborative Model (ECM) to Combat Human Trafficking supports law enforcement agencies and victim service organizations to build capacity and operational effectiveness as a core member of a collaborative, multidisciplinary human trafficking task force that includes a broad range of partnerships such as federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors; victim and social services providers; and relevant community stakeholders. The ECM encourages human trafficking task forces to implement collaborative, sustainable approaches to investigation and prosecution that are trauma-informed, are victim-centered, and seek to proactively identify and serve all victims of all types of human trafficking. Please click here to [read](https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/enhanced-collaborative-model-to-combat-human-trafficking-1-2020.pdf) more.

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# ‘Do You Speak Emoji?’: Teens And Parents Asked To Pay Attention To Texting Innuendos

Two billboards in Williamsport are meant to spark “car conversation” between parents and teens this month – highlighting the dangers of domestic violence. “Their teens may be speaking in a language they don’t understand,” said Erin Scholl, advocacy and education supervisor with the YWCA’s [Wise Options](https://www.ywcawilliamsport.org/our-programs/wise-options/). The “Do you speak emoji” billboards are set up on East Third Street near Blackberry Alley and on West Fourth Street going into Newberry. The billboards contain a combination of texting emojis often used to solicit nude photos from someone, and emojis used to illustrate police and jail. This is a prevalent issue, said Amber Morningstar, program director at Wise Options. Please click [here](https://onthepulsenews.com/do-you-speak-emoji-teens-and-parents-asked-to-pay-attention-to-texting-innuendos/) to read more.

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# City Of Erie Agencies Come Together In An Effort To End Domestic Violence

“Getting someone out of a domestic violence situation is difficult because there are attachments there,” said Paul Lukach, Executive Director of the Crime Victim Center. Different agencies from the City of Erie are coming together in efforts to help put an end to domestic violence.

“We attend violence workshops, study groups and forums with SafeNet, so that we can not only update them with the latest trends, but that we are able to implement some of their training into the police departments and really work together to make sure that the trend of domestic violence goes down.” said Captain Rick Lorah.

A new protocol for Erie Police when responding to a domestic violence call is to complete a lethality assessment screen. The importance of the questionnaire goes far beyond police work. Please click [here](https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/city-of-erie-agencies-come-together-to-effort-an-end-for-domestic-violence/) to read more.

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# Project PA | The Process Of Investigating Child Abuse

A new study by Penn State University criticizes the appeals process when it comes to those facing allegations of child abuse in Pennsylvania. Researchers originally set out to understand how caseworkers investigate child sexual abuse and exploitation. However, the final report included much more, raising questions on whether victims get a fair shot in administrative court. Please click [here](https://local21news.com/news/project-pa/project-pa-the-process-of-investigating-child-abuse) to read more.

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# Pa. Attorney General Visits Penn To Endorse Student-Written Gun Violence Prevention Plan

Two years after the [Stoneman Douglas High School shooting](https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/parkland-marjory-stoneman-douglas-school-shooting) in Parkland, Fla., policymakers and student activists fromacross the nation gathered on Penn's campus to learn about a new [plan](https://www.ceasefirepa.org/peaceplan/) that promises to cut gun deaths in Pennsylvania in half by 2030.

On the afternoon of Feb. 13, about 20 local students convened in Huntsman Hall to witness members of March for Our Lives PA and Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro formally announce the Peace Plan for a Safer Pennsylvania, which has been in the works since November 2019. On March 25, the group will take their plan to Harrisburg, Pa. to ask state lawmakers for their support.

The [plan](https://www.ceasefirepa.org/peaceplan/) is divided into three sections: ”ensuring safe gun ownership,” “addressing systemic causes,” and “fixing democracy.” Some of the proposed policies include universal background checks, lost and stolen gun reports, support for mental health programs, civic education initiatives, and funding research for gun violence as a public health epidemic. Please click [here](https://www.thedp.com/article/2020/02/gun-violence-plan-politics-harrisburg-pennsylvanian-philadelphia-shooting-parkland) to read more.

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# April Is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Every April, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC), one of the many leading organizations on NO MORE’s steering committee, coordinates the national [Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) campaign](http://nsvrc.org/saam) for the month of April to educate and engage the public in addressing this widespread issue. Stay tuned for the announcement of the 2020 SAAM theme! Click [here](https://nomore.org/campaigns/sexual-assault-awareness-month/) for social media strategies, graphic artwork, ideas for messaging, and more.

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# 2020 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week (NCVRW)

Every April, OVC helps lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of NCVRW, which will be observed in 2020 from April 19–25. This year's theme is **Seek Justice | Ensure Victims' Rights | Inspire Hope**. The weeklong initiative promotes victims' rights and honors crime victims and those who advocate on their behalf. The 2020 color palette, customizable Theme Poster, and the Theme Poster source art are now available to help the field prepare for NCVRW.

* Theme Colors: dark blue, dark green, with an optional light green. View the [2020 NCVRW Color Palette](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/pdf/2020NCVRWThemePalette.pdf) (PDF 487 kb).
* Theme Poster: Download a customizable copy of the [2020 NCVRW Theme Poster](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/pdf/2020NCVRW_Theme_Poster-11x17-english.pdf) (PDF 204 kb) and the [2020 NCVRW Theme Poster Source Art](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/images/00-2020_NCVRW_Theme_Poster_final_eng.eps) (Illustrator 7 mb).

Sign up for the [National Crime Victims' Rights Week Subscription List](https://puborder.ncjrs.gov/Listservs/Subscribe_NCVRW.asp) to receive information about the release of the 2020 NCVRW Resource Guide.

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# Webinar: Removing Barriers Following Sexual Assault: Sexual Assault Forensic Exams For Survivors With Disabilities

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

2:00-3:30 p.m. EDT

There are many barriers for survivors of sexual assault who are seeking sexual assault medical forensic exam services to overcome- regardless of abilities. Those challenges can be compounded when the survivor has a disability. Service providers and medical professionals can help facilitate the process by ensuring an accessible process for all survivors. This webinar will review the unique needs of survivors with disabilities and best practices for completing sexual assault exams to ensure a safe and accessible experience for all.

Please click [here](https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1083844668/en/events/event/shared/1099426672/event_registration.html?sco-id=2580665969) to learn more and to register.

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# Free Webinar: Applying Principles-Focused Evaluation In The Sexual Violence Prevention Context

March 26, 2020

2:00-3:30 p.m. – Eastern

NSVRC is pleased to offer this free webinar introducing preventionists to principles-focused evaluation (PFE), which identifies principles describing core values and behaviors used to foster successful prevention work. PFE complements outcome evaluation and supports decision making during prevention implementation. Participants will learn how to incorporate their own sexual violence prevention effectiveness principles into their evaluation approach.  This learning will be accompanied by examples from Washington state’s experience of engaging preventionists in the process of identifying principles – a project supported by the State Department of Health.

After this webinar, participants will be able to:

* Define Principles-Focused Evaluation and articulate how it complements other types of program evaluation.
* Describe the process involved in identifying and refining effectiveness principles.
* Articulate ways that the principles-identification process can reconnect staff to the values underlying their own prevention work.
* Describe the process involved in developing a Principles-Focused Evaluation plan.

Please click [here](http://endingsvtogether.pcar.org/site/Calendar/986507893?view=RSVP&id=100763) to learn more and to register.

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# Save The Date: Network Of Victim Assistance Auction & Gala

Thursday, April 2, 2020

5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Warrington Country Club

1360 Almshouse Road

Warrington, PA 18976

This year's theme, An Evening in the Roaring 20's, will take guests back 100 years to the 1920's and will feature 20's themed food stations, dancing, drinks, entertainment and live and silent auctions. Auction items include a private dinner party at Bocelli's Italian Restaurant, a spring yard clean-up package, a garden tea party for 8, dining experiences, adventures and getaways, artwork, jewelry, museum, theater and sports tickets and much more! New auction items are added weekly.

"The Auction & Gala is our largest and most fun event of the year,'' stated Penny Ettinger, Executive Director at NOVA. "Proceeds from the event benefit NOVA's work in both helping victims of crime and preventing violence through education and advocacy programs. We hope everyone comes out for a roaring good time!"

Tickets for the Auction & Gala are $85.00 per person. The dress code for the event is business casual or 1920's themed attire. To purchase tickets, make a donation, or receive more information, please click [here](https://e.givesmart.com/events/e1u/), or contact Jill Mann at 215-343-6543 ext. 6602.

Those who are unable to attend the gala can still get in on the auction fun and bid on items online via www.NOVA.givesmart.com, by clicking on "Register to Participate" and following the prompts.

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# Save The Date: A Look Beneath The Surface: Human Trafficking In Our Local Community

Thursday, April 2, 2020

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Medure’s Catering at the Villa

2500 New Butler Road, New Castle, PA 16101

This training is intended for law enforcement, judges, court personnel, prosecutors, probation, parole, victim advocates, social workers, counselors, mental health and allied professionals, children, youth and families services and other professionals.

The cost of training is $30 and includes breakfast and lunch. This training is FREE for all Lawrence County Law Enforcement.

Please click [here](https://www.crisisshelter.org/2020/02/21/human-trafficking-in-our-local-community/) to learn more and to register.

For information on how to obtain CLEES, CLEs, and CEUs, please contact Waynetta Austin at 724-856-4321 or waustin@crisisshelter.org.

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# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on March 3, 2020:

* Stolen Benefit Cash 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 March 17, 2020:

* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Loss of Support Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following training will be held on March 25, 2020:

* Basic Compensation – 9:30 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 hours, and DAVE training, which counts towards 2 hours and 15 minutes.

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

A recording of the Sexual Assault Counseling Claims Legislative Change Webex is available [here](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=pccd&service=6). This training can be accessed at any time for viewing.

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# Upcoming OVC TTAC Webinars

Expert Q&A: Helping Survivors of Multiple Victimizations

March 18, 2020 | 2:00-3:15 p.m. ET

Polyvictimization refers to having experienced multiple victimizations, such as sexual abuse, physical abuse, bullying, and exposure to family violence, and occurs when individuals experience different kinds of victimization, rather than multiple episodes of the same kind of victimization. Understanding the prevalence, occurrence, and identification of polyvictimization across all generations is essential for victim advocates and other victim-serving professionals to help ensure that the right types of assistance, support, and intervention are made available.

Click [here](https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1154055844/en/events/event/shared/2551870931/event_registration.html?connect-session=na11breezixdd5iw7gywimd64&sco-id=2551804863&_charset_=utf-8) to register.

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# 2ND Date Added! Webinar: Survivor’s Circle

Start off the new year and decade by making yourself a priority. Many of us are driven to work in the anti-violence movement because we are survivors of trauma ourselves. Being a survivor/advocate can be both challenging and rewarding. Join other survivors/advocates for this guided discussion and support circle about serving in this dual role and caring for our survivor selves while working in the field.

Caring for Yourself as a Survivor While Walking with Others Through Their Journey

March 26, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Trainer: Erika Brosig, LCSW

**\*\*please note, the March 24th date is FULL\*\***

This training qualifies for 3 PCCD-approved training hours. Questions? Please email Amelia Smulktis at AJS@RestitutionConsulting.com.

For more information or to register, please click [here](https://pccd.webex.com/ec3300/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=150297999646403839&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=pccd&confViewID=150297999646403839&internalProgramTicketUnList=null).

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# SAVE THE DATE: 2020 Crime Victims’ Rights Rally

The 2020 Crime Victims’ Rights Rally will be held on April 20, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Harrisburg State Capitol (Rotunda).

Exhibitor tables can be reserved through Monic Iskric at msiskr@ship.edu.

A post-rally event sponsored by The Office of Victim Advocate (OVA) will be held immediately following the Rally.

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# Topical Training Announcement: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

In the state of Pennsylvania over 80,000 children are being raised by their grandparents, many due to the opioid crisis. In recent years legislation has been passed, pilot programs developed, and hotlines created to assist grandparents in taking on this overwhelming task. If you are interested in learning more about this topic and tools to help you when working with victims who are in this situation, register for this important training.

Monday, May 18, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Graduate Hotel

125 South Atherton Street

State College, PA 16801

**Registration closes on April 27, 2020**. This course is open to all victim service providers, including attorneys. Class size is limited to 40 attendees.

Please click [here](https://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500203&RegType=ATT) to learn more and to register.

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# SAVE THE DATE: Fifth Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Forensic Nursing Conference

Save the date for the Fifth Annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Forensic Nursing Conference!

Date: Friday, May 1, 2020

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Abington Jefferson Health, 1200 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001

Cost: $65 (includes breakfast and lunch)

We will be applying for CEUs for Registered Nurses and Social Workers

**Registration is scheduled to begin approximately March 1, 2020**

Topics include:

* Suspect exams
* Male violence in intimate relations and the Emerge program of Massachusetts
* From Forensic Exam to Prosecution
* Women That Molest Children
* How traffickers are using the prison system to recruit and exploit women who have been incarcerated
* The Me Too Movement

Please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07egwnoyqy3c43d7aa&llr=6nqn8gdab&showPage=true) to learn more. For questions, please contact Debbie Nugent at 267-488-1487 or debbie@novabucks.org.

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# 2020 Freedom Network USA Human Trafficking Conference

The 2020 FNUSA Conference will take place on **March 18-19** in Miami, FL. This year we will explore how anti-trafficking work has grown and evolved since the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 2000. Twenty years later, survivors are receiving more compassionate and effective services and advocates have forged pathways to influence policy. Community leaders across the country are developing new approaches, tools, and partnerships to address human trafficking. These innovations are changing the way we work together and our collective impact.

However, some challenges linger. Survivors still fight for a seat at the table, collaboration remains difficult, and entire populations are overlooked and underserved. As awareness of human trafficking increases, prosecutions are down, and human rights protections are being stripped away. Using conference sessions, networking time, and physical space, we will confront these challenges and build solutions that are intersectional, representative, and rooted in human rights.

For more information and to register, please click [here](https://freedomnetworkusa.org/conference/).

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# 2020 International Conference On Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence And Violence Across The Lifespan

The 2020 ***International Conference on Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Violence Across the Lifespan*** will be held **April 14-16** in Washington, DC.

Our annual conferences focus on sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, human trafficking and elder abuse. We consistently bring together law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, victim advocates, judges, parole and probation officers, rape crisis workers, health care professionals, faith community members, educators, researchers and others in this three-day conference highlighting promising practices and emerging issues to effectively respond to these crimes in all of our communities.

For more information and to register, please click [here](http://www.cvent.com/events/international-conference-on-sexual-assault-domestic-violence-and-violence-across-the-lifespan/event-summary-8e6420fcdc134cbba1abe0215e8f6422.aspx?fqp=true).

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# SAVE THE DATE - 2020 Foundational Academies

The next Foundational Academy will be held April 15 - 17 at The Graduate (formerly The Atherton) in State College. Registration opened February 3rdon [www.pdaa.org](http://www.pdaa.org) under the PDAI Training Calendar. **This is the only Academy for which accommodations are provided.** Registration (which will include room reservations) will close March 4, 2020. **\*\*ACADEMY IS FULL! Please contact Amy Smulktis to be added to the waitlist for the State College Academy ONLY\*\***

Additional Foundational Academies will be held:

* July 15 - 17 in Cranberry Township (Pittsburgh area)
* October 7 - 9 in King of Prussia (Philadelphia area)

Important Changes for 2020:

* There will be only **three** Academies this year and there will be **no** Harrisburg Academy.
* Each Academy is open to **50** attendees and is first-come, first-served for those who are mandated to attend per PCCD.
* Lunch will be provided **instead of** break-time snacks.
* Small room blocks are reserved at a discount for those attending the Cranberry Township or King of Prussia Academies (\*\*\*Attendees are responsible for making their own reservations and for the costs. If you are planning to register for one of these Academies and wish to make early hotel reservations, please contact Amy Smulktis for the discount code/link).

**Registration for each academy will open approximately 60 days prior to the state date under the PDAI Training Calendar at** [**www.pdaa.org**](http://www.pdaa.org)**.** Registration is first come, first served for those VOCA, VOJO, and RASA funded individuals who are required to attend per PCCD’s Consolidated Victim Services Standards. There is also a supplemental online training requirement in addition to the 3-day classroom academy.

If you have any questions about the above webinar, the 2020 Academies, or wish to be added to her Quarterly Restitution & V/W Training Newsletter, please email the Training Consultant, Amy Smulktis, at AJS@RestitutionConsulting.com.

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# SAVE THE DATE: 2020 KCIT Conference: Conscious Resilience After Trauma

Keystone Crisis Intervention Team is excited to announce a call for workshop proposals for the 2020 KCIT Conference: Conscious Resilience After Trauma. KCIT is seeking proposals that highlight best practices, current trends and/or innovative topics. As this conference is sponsored through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, workshops must include a connection to victimization and trauma.

The Conference will be held on September 22-23, 2020 in York, PA at Heritage Hills Resort.

Submissions: Please click [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KCITConference2019RFP).

For Questions: please contact Donna Welsh at donna.welsh@novabucks.org

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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 Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov.

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **March 11, 2020**. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov by Wednesday, **March 4, 2020**.

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 Stacie Brendlinger at (717) 265-8722 or via email at sbrendling@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.