**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

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OVS Newsletter

July 1, 2020

In this Issue...

* [Federal Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act) Funding Availability For Counties](#_Federal_Coronavirus_Relief)
* [Information and Resources Related To COVID 19](#_PCCD_Coronavirus_Relief)
* [RASA/VOJO 2021-2022 Funding Announcement is Now Open!](#_RASA/VOJO_2021-2022_Funding)
* [Next STOP Competitive Solicitation Will Occur In 2021](#_Next_STOP_Competitive)
* [The Arc Of Her Survival](#_The_Arc_Of)
* [A Guide To Being An Ally To Transgender And Nonbinary Youth](#_A_Guide_To)
* [Frequently Asked Questions Involving Courts and COVID-19](#_Frequently_Asked_Questions_1)
* [Best Practices When Using Mobile Devices for Advocacy](#_Best_Practices_When)
* [The Impact of COVID-19 on Child Sex and Labor Trafficking](#_The_Impact_of)
* [HRC Report Shows that LGBTQ People are More Likely to be Victims of Interpersonal Violence](#_HRC_Report_Shows)
* [Job Openings In The Office Of Victims’ Services](#_Job_Openings_In_1)
* [A Woman’s Place - Employment Opportunities](#_OVA_COVID-19_Guidance)
* [NEW! Network of Victim Assistance - Employment Opportunities](#_PCCD_Subrecipients_Updates)

Upcoming Trainings & Events

* [Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Assault: Who Needs Force When You Have Alcohol?](#_Alcohol-Facilitated_Sexual_Assault:)
* [Victims Compensation Online Trainings](#_Linguistic_Justice_In)
* [Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System](#_Pennsylvania_Victim_Services_7)
* [Topical Training Announcement: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren](#_Pennsylvania_Victim_Services_5)
* [Training Announcement: Generational Diversity In The Workplace & Communication Skills](#_Training_Announcement:_Generational_1)
* [SAVE THE DATE: 2020 KCIT Conference: Conscious Resilience After Trauma](#_Online_CLE_Training:_1)
* [SAVE THE DATE: Network Of Victim Assistance Auction & Gala](#_SAVE_THE_DATE:_23)

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).

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

[Return to top](#_top)

# Federal Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act) Funding Availability For Counties

With the passage of the [Federal Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act)](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.congress.gov%2Fbill%2F116th-congress%2Fhouse-bill%2F748%2Ftext&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637254954965117876&sdata=GynB4CWQW97i9mmC%2FXl2bhEHfGgbaxGxcjsp1zbGUv0%3D&reserved=0), PCCD has been tasked with distributing available funding to support state and local law enforcement's efforts in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the COVID-19/coronavirus. To assist in determining the funding strategy of these funds, you may remember that PCCD administered a survey in April 2020 to chief administrators of criminal justice system stakeholders to ascertain levels of need throughout the Commonwealth. Many of you, as victim service providers, completed this survey.

To that end, PCCD released a funding solicitation to initially make available approximately one-half of Pennsylvania’s eligible state share CESF dollars ($8,000,000) to PA counties for the express purpose of providing support to each county’s law enforcement community, which includes, but is not limited to, county jails, juvenile detention centers, local law enforcement, district attorney’s offices, county probation and parole offices, judiciary/court houses, victim service providers and any other relevant criminal justice stakeholders.

It’s important to note that this funding announcement is open to Pennsylvania counties with active county Criminal Justice Advisory Boards (CJABs) that follow [CJAB Minimum Operating Standards](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pccd.pa.gov%2Fcriminaljustice%2Fadvisory_boards%2FDocuments%2FCJAB%2520Minimum%2520Operating%2520Standards.pdf&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637254954965117876&sdata=inAJtTpgiS7DqT79K%2FSQKM1br3SpKrsCR0vBdSXhON8%3D&reserved=0) or an alternative as described in the funding announcement.  CJABs will be responsible for coordinating the application for their county and local criminal justice stakeholders (i.e., county jails, juvenile detention centers, law enforcement, district attorney’s offices, county probation and parole offices, judiciary/court houses, victim service providers and any other relevant criminal justice stakeholders). Victim Service providers are not eligible to apply directly to PCCD for these funds but should contact their CJAB regarding any immediate PPE/supply needs, if their current VOCA funding is not sufficient to support these items. If you are not sure who the CJAB contact is in your area, please visit the CJAB information located on PCCD’s website at [https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/advisory\_boards/Pages/CJABS.aspx](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pccd.pa.gov%2Fcriminaljustice%2Fadvisory_boards%2FPages%2FCJABS.aspx&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637254954965127828&sdata=L13MyI69Siik7gAIP3NpPD9Q3eYvBAh4Q7PCkhdOfBI%3D&reserved=0)

[Return to top](#_top)

# Information and Resources Related To COVID 19

Below is Information and Resources related to how COVID 19 impacts services to victims of crime.

* Pennsylvania Department of Health: [Pennsylvania Coronavirus Updates](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.health.pa.gov%2Ftopics%2Fdisease%2FPages%2FCoronavirus.aspx&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637199776716762436&sdata=28nnh6wjNgRBSWlDhsApjUiQD%2FziHh3CxzmHzXDztyc%3D&reserved=0).  Information can also be found on their [Facebook](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fu7061146.ct.sendgrid.net%2Fls%2Fclick%3Fupn%3D4tNED-2FM8iDZJQyQ53jATUb8Hzhz9hTfMErRs-2Fni8h9iPhC1aY9BVhaOWCOMHTTu2h5NLOsx8HG3SenlmX9HAow-3D-3DRgXI_hdLF3rLJhzTRPT2w-2FGfeA8E2Ufo9uchaw2FUkqw0VAAtxwI3imaVW2pcEabk6UbHNkwk42E4T0jUmxuJYF34ZXhzaO495n5u6ycew-2FsobnMyRmOc49luwrw8qv73LNa8UwrpHlnyiNGdN1TC1n0iGre0SUmIStbQzy-2BjMk-2Fb0ZgshbBdSkMFf0BJujaYhj9f33DYFW2VP5R0xFlSS-2FpGZxl7L0Mm1eiZZMIqgyi-2F24gZGPS5vZbnMHa9AotF6gWhR25UXFvjVeHX8BEWwnFfviALVals8O7yUXW8d3a4X0wicdLgen-2F-2Bk8G72WuKIj7KuKquTvxDhyH3SVKE9UZVGA-3D-3D&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637199776716762436&sdata=0o0rPae93gS3bCFTA2Pzk0QZs1lc66qJchjTh2uhw3g%3D&reserved=0) page and [Twitter](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fu7061146.ct.sendgrid.net%2Fls%2Fclick%3Fupn%3D4tNED-2FM8iDZJQyQ53jATUaQdhrH0jN5hsgJK-2BcC12hTUfg9GzNQM72tOTY4m8nddlqdZMm-2FxijNPa9rMG37uwa-2Br2LvStqlztiDDdeF-2FtADJwiG0kyJ5rHQuTvAhpQ9qToVY_hdLF3rLJhzTRPT2w-2FGfeA8E2Ufo9uchaw2FUkqw0VAAtxwI3imaVW2pcEabk6UbHNkwk42E4T0jUmxuJYF34ZXhzaO495n5u6ycew-2FsobnMyRmOc49luwrw8qv73LNa8UwrpHlnyiNGdN1TC1n0iGre0SUmIStbQzy-2BjMk-2Fb0ZgshbBdSkMFf0BJujaYhj9fvart2p1FcC23X-2Bocon9y3toG2i5NciviAn9yZARheij6PfJEAw45iG1ww8d07pHU-2Fz41-2FzceO8DXngcwd4sPGvNrlVyAJSI-2FCX2r-2BinvrlpibouKcV-2FJq3padVjgyCDn898n1kpdUgMg61PJ-2BXTkRw-3D-3D&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637199776716772434&sdata=msyZfIw3iMWV%2F0xWo%2F2Vfh4v6rlPep%2BtV3cMG3vgb4A%3D&reserved=0) account.
* Please see PCCD’s COVID-19 information page for subrecipients at <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/Subrecepients.aspx>. As we continue to monitor the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and the uncertainty related to when everyone's normal business operations may resume, we will update this page with important information and guidance for our subrecipients.
* RAINN, here are new resources for “Sexual Violence Preparedness and Response During COVID-19”: [https://www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-violence-preparedness-and-response-during-covid-19](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rainn.org%2Farticles%2Fsexual-violence-preparedness-and-response-during-covid-19&data=02%7C01%7Cbcc%40fireeyeatp.pa.gov%7Cae93af9b980648c2a96208d7eaea55b7%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637236165963677755&sdata=Av57O5TloNRCDb8BZInpn%2BsH%2BdKse%2B3JlGqeHoWlLHU%3D&reserved=0)
* The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence regularly updates its resources relevant to COVID-19 and victim services at [http://www.ncadv.org/covid-19-and-domestic-violence](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncadv.org%2Fcovid-19-and-domestic-violence&data=02%7C01%7Cbcc%40fireeyeatp.pa.gov%7Cae93af9b980648c2a96208d7eaea55b7%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637236165963697670&sdata=eJkbkg5%2B%2BYYYkk1IEWnF1fgI6CtFncyCNOHS3jrZrW4%3D&reserved=0)
* From the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council, here’s a report about coronavirus-related discrimination: <http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/STOP_AAPI_HATE_MONTHLY_REPORT_4_23_20.pdf>
* Given the current COVID-19 crisis, outreach and education is taking place at a distance. The [National Council on Aging tip sheet](https://d2mkcg26uvg1cz.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/Tools-for-Reaching-a-Remote-Audience.pdf)provides an overview of some popular tools to reach out to and connect with your audience.
* NRCDV gathered select resources that can offer helpful guidance for domestic violence programs in preparing for and responding to the coronavirus pandemic. Click here to access the information: [Preventing & Managing the Spread of COVID-19 Within Domestic Violence Programs](https://vawnet.org/news/preventing-managing-spread-covid-19-within-domestic-violence-programs)
* 19 Resources + Guidance for CACs: Chart our path with NCA's roadmap for Children's Advocacy Centers and communities on delivering critical services to children and families during the coronavirus outbreak. <https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid>
* COVID-19 is creating new challenges for survivors with disabilities and their service providers. Visit our [Sustaining Services for Survivors with Disabilities During COVID-19](https://www.endabusepwd.org/covid-19/) page for more information and resources**.**
* [Free COVID-19 Language Access Response](https://celery-apple-e4zh.squarespace.com/free-covid-19-response)
* National Children’s Alliance Resource Page: [Coronavirus Resources for CACS, Partners, and Caregivers](https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid)
* The National Sexual Violence Resource Center provides some key resources and recommendations on COVID-19 as it relates to our work to end sexual harassment, abuse, and assault <https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/resources-for-covid-19-response>
* PCADV’s website provides useful information & resources for domestic violence programs, victims, and survivors: <https://www.pcadv.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/>
* The World Health Organization released important guidelines with plenty of URL links to additional information about “mental health and psychosocial considerations during COVIC-19 outbreak” that are quite relevant to our work: [https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/mental-health-considerations.pdf?sfvrsn=6d3578af\_8](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.who.int%2Fdocs%2Fdefault-source%2Fcoronaviruse%2Fmental-health-considerations.pdf%3Fsfvrsn%3D6d3578af_8&data=02%7C01%7CKAbuckley%40pa.gov%7Cf65403a4f367484e40d808d7ca64c52e%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637200407854779080&sdata=QkVlTCVGfopgiHSlCD8De3GKEERQ5wgHKxwNoHgHSGI%3D&reserved=0)
* The National Center for Victims of Crime has a Facebook online group for information and support: [Crime Victims Community in COVID-19](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1427716924075500/)
* The Vera Institute has launched a free daily “Coronavirus Justice News Digest” and you can sign up [here](https://vera.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=6542df2be696ba0ea2f17b66a&id=97589658a4).
* The National Resource Center on Reaching Victims has developed new resources, answering your questions and providing other links to outside organizations that might be valuable at this time: <https://reachingvictims.org/covid-19/> .
* Office of Victim Advocate (OVA) services are now being provided by a combination of office staff observing social distancing guidelines and staff members teleworking. The best way to reach their office is by email at [RA-OVAinfo@pa.gov](mailto:RA-OVAinfo@pa.gov). Their phone lines remain open Monday – Friday 8am – 4pm at 800-563-6399. For more information, please click [here](https://www.ova.pa.gov/Services/COVID-19%20Guidance%20and%20Resources/Pages/default.aspx).

[Return to top](#_top)

# RASA/VOJO 2021-2022 Funding Announcement is Now Open!

The RASA/VOJO 2021-2022 Funding Announcement for the funding period of January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2022 is now open**.**RASA/VOJO programs must submit their applications in Egrants by **Friday, September 4, 2020.**

Rights and Services Act/Victims of Juvenile Offenders (RASA/VOJO) funds support procedural services mandated by the PA Crime Victims Act, PA Juvenile Act and/or the PA Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure.

Please note that RASA/VOJO program recommendations are made by each county’s District Attorney (DA) in consultation with the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer (CJPO).  In order for victim service programs to apply for 2021-2022 RASA/VOJO funding, each county’s DA and CJPO must complete the RASA (DA Only) and VOJO (DA and CJPO) Certification Forms which designate programs and funding amounts.  The RASA and VOJO Certification Forms, along with the 2021-2022 RASA and VOJO Allocation Charts, will be emailed to each DA and CJPO after the funding announcement opens and they will be due back to PCCD by no later than **Wednesday, July 15, 2020**.  The DA and CJPO should also provide copies of the certification forms to each recommended RASA/VOJO program by **Wednesday, July15, 2020** so they can attach the signed/dated forms to their RASA/VOJO Application in Egrants.

Please contact PCCD if there are any questions concerning this announcement.Program-related questions should be directed to Vicki McCloskey at (717)265-8746 or [vmccloskey@pa.gov](mailto:vmccloskey@pa.gov), or Maria Katulis at (717)265-8741 or [mkatulis@pa.gov](mailto:mkatulis@pa.gov).  Fiscal or budgetary questions should be directed to James Haas at (717)265-8509 or [jamhaas@pa.gov](mailto:jamhaas@pa.gov).  Questions concerning the Egrants system should be made directly to the Egrants Help Desk by calling (717)787-5887.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Next STOP Competitive Solicitation Will Occur In 2021

OVS staff are embarking on the planning process for use of Pennsylvania’s STOP Formula Grant funding over the period 2021 through 2024.  The first meeting was scheduled for March 19-20, 2020.  However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was cancelled.  Given the timeframe for completion, OVS reached out to the federal Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) for clarification and additional guidance on how to proceed with the implementation planning process.  OVW staff advised us that Pennsylvania’s STOP Implementation Plan is due with the state’s 2021 application for STOP Formula Grant Funds.  This means that the planning meetings can be postponed and rescheduled this year.

The development of the STOP Implementation Plan provides a meaningful and collaborative planning process that shapes the STOP funding announcements.  Since the STOP Implementation Plan is not due until PCCD’s 2021 application, PCCD consulted with the STOP Implementation Planning Committee and they agreed with PCCD’s plan to augment and extend all currently funded STOP Projects for an additional year.  The finalization of the STOP Implementation Plan that will occur in early 2021, will inform the content and structure of the next STOP Competitive Solicitation which now will released in the summer of 2021.

[Return to top](#_top)

# The Arc Of Her Survival

On a bright day in March, Kristina Anderson walks through the lobby of Disney’s Yacht Club Resort. She passes well-lotioned vacationers in flip-flops ambling to the pool. Outside, families are splashing around, climbing the fake shipwreck, and spooning sundaes at the Beaches & Cream Soda Shop. Even the white egret posing on the grass seems relaxed. The vast, cheerful complex feels like the kind of place where nothing bad could ever happen. Yet violence, as Ms. Anderson knows all too well, can erupt anywhere. A movie theater. An office. A classroom. Please click [here](https://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Arc-of-Her-Survival/239744) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# A Guide To Being An Ally To Transgender And Nonbinary Youth

The first step to becoming an ally to transgender and nonbinary people is to learn more; thank you for taking that step! It can be tough for transgender and nonbinary people to bear the burden of educating others about their lived experience. That’s why The Trevor Project has published this guide: to help begin your education on the basics of gender identity and expression. You’ll be able to better support the trans and nonbinary folks in your lives, and help to create a safer, kinder and more accepting world. The “Guide to Being an Ally to Transgender and Nonbinary Youth” is an introductory educational resource that covers a wide range of topics and best practices on how to support transgender and nonbinary people. Please click [here](https://www.thetrevorproject.org/resources/trevor-support-center/a-guide-to-being-an-ally-to-transgender-and-nonbinary-youth/) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Frequently Asked Questions Involving Courts and COVID-19

Since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began in the United States, state and local courthouses have closed or postponed hearings to slow the spread of the virus. Uncertainty about whether a courthouse is open or if a hearing is still scheduled can be frustrating and frightening. Click [here](https://www.womenslaw.org/laws/preparing-court-yourself/frequently-asked-questions-involving-courts-and-covid-19) for resources and Frequently Asked Questions that will help you navigate this rapidly changing time.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Best Practices When Using Mobile Devices for Advocacy

Mobile devices make it easier for advocates to work while away from the office, especially those that serve large geographic or rural areas. Tablets, laptops, and smart phones can help advocates reach survivors, make files from the office accessible, send and receive email, and upload or update paperwork. Despite the many conveniences and benefits, local programs using mobile devices should be aware of their security and safety issues. Click [here](https://www.techsafety.org/resources-agencyuse/mobilecomputing-bestpractices) for more information.

[Return to top](#_top)

# The Impact of COVID-19 on Child Sex and Labor Trafficking

This [fact sheet](https://www.nctsn.org/resources/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-child-sex-and-labor-trafficking) describes how the impact and consequences of COVID 19 increases the risk of involvement in sex or labor trafficking.  The fact sheet offers information on what you can do as a provider and how to support yourself.

[Return to top](#_top)

# [HRC Report Shows that LGBTQ People are More Likely to be Victims of Interpersonal Violence](https://www.hrc.org/blog/hrc-report-shows-lgbtq-people-are-more-likely-to-be-victims-of-interpe)

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation released [LGBTQ Intimate Partner Violence and COVID-19](https://assets2.hrc.org/files/assets/resources/Intimate-Partner-Violence-Report-2020.pdf), which demonstrates the disparities in rates of intimate partner violence between LGBTQ and non-LGBTQ communities, shows how these rates are likely to increase during COVID-19 and offers solutions to address these rising rates of violence. Click [here](https://assets2.hrc.org/files/assets/resources/Intimate-Partner-Violence-Report-2020.pdf) to learn more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Job Openings In The Office Of Victims’ Services

The Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) currently has vacancies for Criminal Justice System Specialists within the Victims Compensation Assistance Program. These positions are responsible for providing financial reimbursement/guidance and other compensation related services to victims of crime, their families and/or significant others, and other claimants.

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.

[Return to top](#_top)

# A Woman’s Place - Employment Opportunities

A Woman’s Place (AWP), a community-based social change organization serving victims of domestic violence, is seeking a part-time Resident Counseling Advocate and a full-time Bi-Lingual First Response Advocate.

The Resident Counseling Advocate works within AWP’s emergency safe house, assisting victims of domestic violence in achieving safety and self-sufficiency. AWP is currently hiring a 32 hour a week part-time position. Positions may include weekday, evening, and/or overnight shifts.

The Bi-Lingual First Response Advocate provides immediate crisis and safety counseling to victims of domestic violence when contacted by local police departments and provides court accompaniment through the criminal justice system with a focus on the Spanish speaking population. AWP is hiring 1 full-time position requiring schedule flexibility to assist in providing 24/7 response. Must be fluent in Spanish.

For full job descriptions and application process please visit our website: [https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fawomansplace.org%2Fget-involved%2F&data=02%7C01%7Csbrendling%40pa.gov%7C05605b711196466a36e808d7e6103c13%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637230829715543440&sdata=crkTLivE1w%2Bz%2FaffAbsTKBDUZRftplAHRgjpzYrABJ0%3D&reserved=0)

[Return to top](#_top)

# NEW! 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.

[**Data Management and Quality Assurance (DMQA)**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Data%20Management%20and%20Quality%20Assurance.pdf)

[**Licensed or Soon to be Licensed Clinical Counselor**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Licensed%20or%20Soon%20to%20be%20Licensed%20Clinical%20Counselor.pdf)

[**Part-time Human Trafficking Task Force Organizer** **(27 hours/week)**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Human%20Trafficking%20Task%20Force%20Organizer.pdf)

[**Training Coordinator**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Training%20Coordinator.pdf)

[**Bucks County Children’s Advocacy Center Part-Time Family Advocate**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Bucks%20County%20CAC%20Family%20Advocate.pdf)

Located in Bucks County, PA, the Bucks County Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC), a service of NOVA (Network of Victim Assistance), provides a safe and child-friendly environment in which the CAC staff, law enforcement, child welfare, prosecution, advocacy, medical and mental health professionals collaborate to implement effective and coordinated investigations of suspected child abuse and connect child victims and their families to medical, mental health, and other social services.

**Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Applicants must send a cover letter with salary requirements in addition to their resume to** [**DebGH@novabucks.org**](mailto:DebGH@novabucks.org)**. AA/EOE.**

**NOVA is currently working remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.  Although the physical interview process is on hold, they are still reviewing all the applicants as they come in.  They will be conducting in-person interviews as soon as possible.**

[Return to top](#_top)

# Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Assault: Who Needs Force When You Have Alcohol?

Alcohol is the most common weapon used to facilitate sexual assault. Offenders use alcohol because it renders victims vulnerable, affects memory, and impairs judgment and physical ability. It's unique toxicological effects, widespread use, and ease of consumption make it ideal for offenders who commit sexual assaults. This two-part presentation will explore common issues and challenges related to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases where alcohol is present. More specifically, it will focus on identifying corroborating evidence, interviewing victims, basic toxicology, the effect of societal attitudes about alcohol on determinations of victim credibility, and trial strategies. In addition, this presentation will promote a victim-centered response that incorporates offender-focused strategies for an effective trauma-informed investigation and prosecution. Throughout the discussion, the presenters will discuss how strategies may be implicated and altered by social distancing measures currently in place in response to COVID-19. Learn more here: <https://aequitasresource.org/resources/>

[Return to top](#_top)

# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

The following training will be held on July 1, 2020.

* Basic Compensation - 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following trainings will be held on July 8, 2020.

* Loss of Support Clinic – 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 July 22, 2020.

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

The following trainings will be held on July 28, 2020.

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

The following trainings will be held on August 4, 2020.

* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on August 12, 2020.

* Loss of Earnings Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Medical Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following training will be held on August 18, 2020.

* Basic Compensation – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following training will be held on August 27, 2020.

* Restitution Basics – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 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.

[Return to top](#_top)

# 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 28 approved programs, totaling 54 hours of training, on the PVST.

To access the PVST, go to the website at <https://pavictimservicestraining.org/>.  The registration code is 7223.

The Victims with Intellectual Disabilities course presents concepts and steps when working with individuals with intellectual disabilities, their family members or guardians. The course focuses on Accessibility and Procedures when providing direct services. This course will provide 2 hours of continuing education units.

[Return to top](#_top)

# 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, August 10, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Graduate Hotel

125 South Atherton Street

State College, PA 16801

**Registration closes on July 24, 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.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Training Announcement: Generational Diversity In The Workplace & Communication Skills

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Learn how generational differences in the workplace and working with the public, especially crime victims, impact the ways we communicate and understand each other. This training provides tools for better communication among our colleagues, the public and our supervisors; and offers guidance to understand learning differences, knowing our audiences, and improving our messaging so that we can perform our jobs most effectively.  
  
One week before the training: Please provide to Amy Smulktis any situations or questions you have where communications could have been improved, for discussion among the group.  
  
**PCCD has approved this course for 2 annual training hours. *Class size is limited to 40 attendees***.

**Please click** [here](https://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500215&RegType=ATT) **to learn more and to register. Registration closes on September 1, 2020.**

[Return to top](#_top)

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

“Keystone Crisis Intervention Team is excited to share the date for our 2nd statewide conference, September 22-23, 2020.  The theme of our Conference this year is Conscious Resilience After Trauma.  KCIT’s focus on building Conscious Resilience is an acknowledgement of the impact and emotional toll that trauma has on our clients, organizations, communities, but more specifically—you—the helper.”

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

For Questions: please contact Donna Welsh at [donna.welsh@novabucks.org](mailto:donna.welsh@novabucks.org)

[Return to top](#_top)

# SAVE THE DATE: Network Of Victim Assistance Auction & Gala

Thursday, October 15, 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. Event proceeds benefit NOVA’s work in both helping victims of crime and preventing violence through education and advocacy programs.

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](https://e.givesmart.com/events/e1u/), by clicking on "Register to Participate" and following the prompts.

[Return to top](#_top)

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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](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov).

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **July 15, 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](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov) by Wednesday, **July 8, 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](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov).

[Return to top](#_top)

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.