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*Chairman*

**Michael Pennington**

*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

August 14, 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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# 2020 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards

The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented challenge for the victim service community. It has required victim service agencies to quickly adapt and rethink how they perform their duties to meet the needs of crime victims. Victim service providers across Pennsylvania have continued to deliver supportive services to victims in their time of need. Please take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of your peers who go above and beyond, not only during COVID-19, but all year long, to help victims of crime and nominate them for the 2020 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award.

**Nomination Deadline is August 31st!**

Award categories include:

* Survivor Activist Award – Those who have survived being a victim and have used that experience to make an impact within victim services.
* Outstanding Student Activist Award – Many students volunteer within their community and are dedicated to helping victims. College campuses have dedicated victim service groups that are doing good work to make an impact on their campus.
* Allied Professional Award – Look at the other individuals in your community that work as your partner to help crime victims.  Examples may include the police officer, district attorney or health care professional that goes above and beyond in the service to victims.
* Individual Direct Services Award – To the person who simply believes they are just doing their job, but you know they are doing so much more. A counselor, advocate, victim/witness coordinator, etc. These are the professionals that touch the lives of victims daily and go out of their way to help assist and/or empower those in need.
* Individual Prevention, Education and Outreach Award – The victim service professional that has developed and provided educational programming with enthusiasm for meeting the needs of victims.
* Community Services Award – Given to a nominee that has made a visible contribution and impact upon victim services in Pennsylvania.
* Individual Organizational Capacity Building Award – To the organization that is committed to enhancing capacity or the ability to fulfill its mission. This is demonstrated through becoming less reliant on government funds and they are ethical and accountable throughout their organization.
* Posthumous Award – Awarded to an individual that would have been eligible for any of the above categories, but sadly are no longer with us.
* Program Award – Given to a program that has made notable contributions to the community and has a reputation for delivering services within that community. The organization should be a stable, well established entity.

Nomination information for the Pathfinder Award is now available at [https://expressforms.pa.gov/apps/pa/PCCD/Governors-Victim-Service-Pathfinder-Awards](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fexpressforms.pa.gov%2Fapps%2Fpa%2FPCCD%2FGovernors-Victim-Service-Pathfinder-Awards&data=02%7C01%7Cc-aghoshda%40pa.gov%7C151ecf5c5f994059773208d8234dce35%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637298165116447996&sdata=HCo6VqFGee8UGY0AUL781GKkFFU1cKgb9Utsbp8vvYE%3D&reserved=0).

Please review all sections and downloadable materials to understand the requirements and the submission process. All nominations and supporting documentation must be submitted electronically from this website.

Since there will not be a Pathways to Victims’ Services Conference this year, awards will be presented locally during a mutually agreed upon time. PCCD staff or a member of the Victims’ Services Advisory Committee will attend to present the award to the recipient.

Please contact Mr. Greg Savage at (717) 265-8721 or [gsavage@pa.gov](mailto:gsavage@pa.gov) with any questions.

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# PCCD’s Office Of Victims’ Services (OVS) Will Be Implementing Proration Process For VOCA Quarterly Report Data

PCCD has received guidance that the federal Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and the federal Office of Inspector General (OIG) expects states to ensure that VOCA-funded programs collect and report victims served and services provided but be able to distinguish VOCA grant funded versus non-VOCA grant funded victims and services. This includes those RASA/VOJO programs that receive VOCA funds as part of their RASA/VOJO grant. This guidance is an effort to ensure a more accurate measure of the activities supported by VOCA and the direct impact of federal funding.

To that end, the Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) and OVC recognize that tracking victims and the provision of services to victims with VOCA funds, separately from other funding sources is not always possible. As a result, the OVC has provided states with information that outlines the use of data proration for program reporting.

Over the past 4 months, OVS has been working on developing a strategy for proration and guidance for agencies on how to do proration.  Beginning with the July – September 2020 VOCA quarterly report, VOCA funded agencies will begin reporting VOCA data on a pro-rated basis.

**A training has been scheduled for August 26 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. via Skype**. During this training, OVS will provide training material and written guidance to assist you with the proration process. There is a limit of 250 attendees for the training.

Please register by August 19, 2020 by clicking on the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QSiOQSgB1U2bbEf8Wpob3spYyVGZoqFDhJ7-3ZCf6nNUNTlHUkhJTFZSRTdERERDVUxIUE9ZUU9QTC4u>

On Thursday, August 20th, we will send out the Skype Information to the first 250 registrants. If you’re unable to attend, please note that this training will be recorded and made available via a link that will be provided in a follow-up email to everyone.

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# 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 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.

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# How RAINN’s Policy Team Works To Help Survivors

Recently, as Congress has considered police reform legislation, RAINN has urged House and Senate leaders to include a number of additional changes to help survivors of sexual violence. RAINN’s suggestions address issues that disproportionately impact Black victims of sexual violence, especially Black girls, who are overrepresented in juvenile justice data. According to [***The Sex Abuse to Prison Pipeline: The Girls Story***](https://rights4girls.org/wp-content/uploads/r4g/2015/02/2015_COP_sexual-abuse_layout_web-1.pdf), 76 percent of girls involved with the justice system have histories of physical and sexual abuse. These efforts are just the latest on the part of the RAINN policy team to help bring about change at the federal level. Please click [here](https://www.rainn.org/news/how-rainns-policy-team-works-help-survivors) to read more.

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# Trauma-Informed Prosecution Project

The Trauma-Informed Prosecution Project aims to develop guidance for prosecutors to incorporate trauma-informed best practices into their work in order to serve crime survivors, witnesses, people accused of crimes, and all community members. The purpose of this presentation is to give prosecutors a basic understanding of trauma and how it affects their cases. The presentation will give you the fundamentals of trauma and how it manifests in the mind and body. With this knowledge, the presentation seeks to connect the effects of trauma and how it affects witnesses, crime survivors, and those accused of crimes. The presentation will provide real life examples of interactions prosecutors have with individuals throughout their case and how to approach those interactions in a trauma-informed manner. Please click [here](https://www.prosecution.org/traumainformed-prosecution) to read more.

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# Bureau of Justice Statistics: “Indicators Of School Crime And Safety, 2019”

Our nation’s schools should be safe havens for teaching and learning, free of crime and violence. Any instance of crime or violence at school not only affects the individuals involved but also may disrupt the educational process and affect bystanders, the school itself, and the surrounding community (Brookmeyer, Fanti, and Henrich 2006; Goldstein, Young, and Boyd 2008). Establishing reliable indicators of the current state of school crime and safety across the nation and regularly updating and monitoring these indicators are important in ensuring the safety of our nation’s students. This is the aim of *Indicators of School Crime and Safety.* Please click [here](https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/iscs19.pdf?utm_content=july2020&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery) to read more.

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# ****Women Breaking Free: Stories Of Strength From Survivors Of Domestic Violence****

Released in time for October Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Suze Orman, Emmy Award-winning television host, motivational speaker and author, sits down with survivors of domestic violence to talk about one of the least discussed forms of abuse, financial abuse. In this seven-part video series, we hear from incredibly brave women who share intimate details of abuse with the hope that by sharing their experience they will help change someone else’s life.  Orman, author of *Women & Money*, provides advice and insights that will help all women become strong, smart and secure.

The series of 10 – 14-minute videos is designed to raise awareness of the signs of financial abuse for both victims, as well as friends and family members of victims, and to provide tips to overcome it. Financial abuse can have the most devastating and long-lasting impact on the lives of survivors and their families. You’ll hear stories that include abusers who control their partner’s spending habits, preventing a partner from accessing bank accounts and keeping a partner from having a credit card. Please click [here](https://www.thehotline.org/women-breaking-free/) to read more.

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# Title IX During COVID-19

Returning to college campuses this fall will undoubtedly look unfamiliar for many college students, and for students who are survivors of sexual assault, navigating resources and reporting may be more challenging due to COVID-19.

“Remote learning doesn’t mean sexual violence stops,” said Keeli Sorensen, vice president of victim services at RAINN. “We need to ensure that students are able to learn in a safe virtual environment and that they still feel supported by their university if something were to happen.”

Whether colleges resume on campus or online this fall, it’s important for students, administrators, and parents to know what resources are available to get help after sexual assault. Learn more below about the recent changes to Title IX and how to find help and resources.

Please click [here](https://www.rainn.org/news/title-ix-during-covid-19) to learn more.

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# Domestic Violence & People With Disabilities

Anyone can be affected by domestic violence and abuse, but people with disabilities are more likely to experience abuse than people without disabilities. Because abuse is about power and control, people with disabilities may face unique challenges and barriers to accessing support. Please click [here](https://www.thehotline.org/is-this-abuse/domestic-violence-disabilities-2/) to read more.

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# The A.D.A. At 30: Beyond The Law’s Promise

This series explores how the Americans With Disabilities Act has shaped modern life for people with disabilities in the 30 years since it was passed. Please click [here](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/disability-ADA-30-anniversary.html?referringSource=articleShare) to read more.

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# Just Ask: A Toolkit To Help Advocates, Attorneys, And Law Enforcement Meet The Needs Of Crime Victims With Disabilities

People with disabilities and Deaf people experience violent crime at three times the rate of people without disabilities, yet healing services and the legal system are often not accessible to them. There are a number of steps agencies can take to make their services more accessible and welcoming for survivors with disabilities and Deaf victims, including asking every victim if they need accommodations to participate in services or the legal system. Please click [here](https://reachingvictims.org/resource/just-ask/) to learn more.

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# They Agreed To Meet Their Mother’s Killer. Then Tragedy Struck Again.

On Sept. 12, 2018, the five adult children of Debbie Liles waited in the prosecutor’s office in Jacksonville, Florida, to meet the man who one year earlier had bludgeoned their mother to death with a golf club. The defendant had agreed to tell Mike and his family everything about the murder and to plead guilty. In return, he would be spared the death penalty and instead spend his life in prison—but only if the Lileses felt satisfied that he had told the truth. This arrangement, brokered by Jacksonville’s newly elected state attorney, was essentially unprecedented in the history of homicide prosecutions in the United States. Please click [here](https://www.themarshallproject.org/2020/07/21/they-agreed-to-meet-their-mother-s-killer-then-tragedy-struck-again) to read more.

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# For Sexual Trauma Survivors, The COVID-19 Pandemic Can Be Triggering, Calming, And Everything In Between

“I’ve spent the last 16 days in my apartment in DC talking with sexual violence survivors around the world about how they’re holding up during this covid-19 pandemic and here’s what I’ve learned: Trauma is super complex (you’re like umm...hello yes we’ve known this) and shows up in, different, conflicting and at times surprising ways.” Please click [here](https://healinghonestly.com/ask-survivor/sexual-trauma-survivors-covid-19-pandemic-can-be-triggering-calming-and-everything) to read more.

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# Understanding Consent

Sexual violence impacts 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men. These numbers are staggering, and we owe it to survivors everywhere and our communities to search for solutions and change these statistics. With recent research from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) showing that 1 in 3 men don’t believe that intercourse resulting from coercion and pressure is sexual assault, we see that one solution is clearing up fundamental misunderstandings about consent. Please click [here](https://nomore.org/learn/understanding-consent/) to read more.

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# National Research Collaborative Awards $7.5 Million In Grants To Study Gun Violence

The National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research today announced $7.5 million in new funding for gun policy research on topics including officer-involved shootings, intimate partner gun violence, and the risks and benefits of gun ownership and use. The announcement marks the Collaborative’s second major investment in gun policy research to help close the funding gap after the federal government discontinued most funding of gun policy research more than two decades ago. In July 2019, the Collaborative awarded an initial round of $9.8 million to 17 research projects. At the end of 2019, for the first time in more than 20 years, the federal government made a one-time commitment of $25 million to support gun violence research. Please click [here](https://www.ncgvr.org/news/2020/collaborative-awards-7-5-million-in-grants.html) to read more.

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# Taking Action: An Advocate’s Guide To Assisting Victims Of Financial Fraud

It is the question faced by victim advocates every day. There are more than 30 million victims of fraud in the United States each year. What can be done to help them? Retirees lose their life savings in fraudulent investment schemes. Online shoppers send money, but get no goods or services in return. People get taken in by confidence tricksters, fake lotteries or scam dating sites. Increasing numbers have their credit card information or whole identity stolen. While many organizations promote prevention strategies to consumers to avoid these kinds of crimes, what can we do for these millions of victims? Please click [here](https://victimsofcrime.org/taking-action/) to read more.

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# 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.

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# NEW! Crisis Center of Lawrence County – Employment Opportunity

The Director of Counseling Services is responsible for maintaining all aspects of clinical therapy and other counseling services.  This position is accountable for HIPPA compliance, quality care standards, direct service benchmarks, training standards, clinical files, insurance billing and ensuring all Counseling Department staff and direct service volunteers receive clinical supervision.  Master’s degree (M.A. or M.S.); Must be licensed as one of the following:  Social Work, Psychology, Professional Counselor; Experience with individual, group and family therapy required; 3-5 years post-licensure and previous third-party billing experience preferred; Criminal checks & clearances required.

Please contact Nicole Amabile at 724-856-4303 for additional information.

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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, is seeking a part-time Resident Counseling 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.

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)

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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.

[**NEW! Development Assistant**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Development%20Assistant%20Job%20Announcement.pdf)

[**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.**

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# NEW! Prevention In Rural Communities

August 18, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

This workshop will focus on successes and challenges of prevention programming in rural communities. Participants will recognize the risk factors and needs of their communities and strategize a prevention program suitable for them. They will also discuss and practice responses to common issues in rural prevention programming such as victim blaming and discrimination.

Please click [here](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1687884896442857487) to register.

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# NEW! Domestic Violence And Pets

August 19, 2020 EDT

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

There is a clear and established link between animal cruelty and human violence. This webinar will focus on implications for pets in the context of domestic violence.  This is important since studies have shown that 48% of domestic violence victims delay leaving or remain in abusive situations because of their pets. Yet fewer than 10% of domestic violence shelters house pets and almost half of all victim/survivors do not want to be separated from their pets. During this webinar, presenters will discuss advocacy, safety planning, resources, model policies for co-sheltering and review legal protections for animals.

Please click [here](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7278028506747857421) to register.

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# NEW! Meeting The Needs Of American Indian And Alaska Native Survivors With Disabilities

August 25, 2020

2:00 p.m.

Over the last decade, great strides have been made to address violence against people with disabilities in communities across the country. However, many mainstream organizations may be less equipped to provide accessible, culturally responsive services to American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) survivors with disabilities. 2.9 million people in the United States identify as “American Indian or Alaskan Native” (2010 U.S. Census). People in AI/AN communities are more likely to experience domestic violence and sexual assault and have high rates of disability. Mainstream organizations need to know how to meet their unique needs in a culturally responsive way. During this webinar, Amanda Watson, Program Director at Praxis International, will explore ways in which programs can better understand the cultural implications of working with AI/AN survivors with disabilities and provide guidance on strategies for best serving them.

Please click [here](https://verainstitute.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4Kpq1vdUQGupi8coO03pBg) to register.

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# NEW! Mass Violence And Terrorism Victimization: What Do We Know From Research And Practice?

August 26, 2020

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET

The Center for Victim Research (CVR) invites you to attend our upcoming webinar, “Mass Violence and Terrorism Victimization: What Do We Know from Research and Practice?”, which will focus on the current evidence surrounding challenges faced by victims of mass violence and terrorism as well as challenges faced by first responders, government agencies, victim service providers, and others who respond to these events.

Topics covered will include:

* Types of mass violence and terrorism events and how often they occur
* Harms experienced by mass violence and terrorism victims
* Factors that put individuals and communities at greater risk of victimization
* What we know about effective services and interventions
* Where the field needs to grow

Please click [here](https://secure.icohere.com/registration/register.cfm?reg=7469&evt=cvr-mass-violence&t=1597171073760) to register.

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# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

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.

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

To access the PVST, please click [here](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.

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# HAVIN Presents: Lt. Mark Wynn: The Challenges Of Dealing With Domestic Violence From A Law Enforcement Perspective

August 27 – 28, 2020

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Family Violence cases are some of the most difficult cases that law enforcement must respond to. They are challenging, frustrating, heart-wrenching and unfortunately our reality. Mark helps us understand these cases in a way like no other, including the critical role that law enforcement and advocates play in the crime of Family Violence from a Pennsylvania Crimes Code perspective. Please join us to help our community members live a life free from violence by holding violent persons accountable.

Topics to be covered include:

* Domestic Violence 101
* Beyond the Obvious-Avoiding Dual Arrest, Dominant Aggressor Determination
* Civil Liability in Domestic Violence Incidents
* Stalking and Counter-Stalking
* Sexual Assault-Myths and Misconceptions
* Injuries, Ambush, and Fatality: Assessing Threats of Domestic Violence Perpetrators
* Victim and Officer Safety
* Building a Community Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Mark%20Wynn%202020%20brochure.pdf) to learn more and to register.

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# 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.**

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# SAVE THE DATE: VIRTUAL 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 as a VIRTUAL EVENT on September 22-23, 2020.

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

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# 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.

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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, **August 26, 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, **August 19, 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).

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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:** Paramecium.